RETIRING MEMBERS OF STAFF

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THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

For the College, as for the country in general, the year 1942 was not without its excitements. In my last report, I said we were beginning to realise more clearly that a world war was raging around us, and, during the term that followed, we felt the effects of it in our own small way. As the City became more and more conscious that bombs were beginning to be a possibility, Tambaram also began to take an interest in the matter, and, in student circles, the question whether or not we were a target of first-class military importance was exhaustively discussed in all its aspects. I noticed one interesting feature of such discussions ; when one found a student specially emphatic about the immediacy of Tokio's designs against Tambaram, further investigation almost always revealed that that student was badly prepared for his terminal or university examinations. My conclusion is that pessimism is sometimes optimism in disguise, or, to be more specific, that a vivid consciousness of the possibility of enemy attack may, in certain special circumstances, not altogether unconnected with examinations, be nothing more than a species of wishful thinking.

Despite an undercurrent of unsettlement, the life of the College went on more or less as usual until the term had almost run its course. In addition to the usual basic formula, which includes a certain amount of work and worship and a certain amount of idleness, some noise, some games, some entertainments, some examinations, and some re-examinations, there were nearly all the characteristic features of a normal third term—the Annual Sports, which were held under the chairmanship of Col. D. M. Reid, and produced six new College records ; the Inter-Collegiate Sports, at which we won the championship for the third year in succession ; and incredible number of photographs—class photographs, Hall photographs, Society photographs, team photographs, every kind of photograph that the ingenious minds of students could invent to the delight of the photographers and the confusion of some of the staff ; and, along with them, or, rather, parallel with them, a formidable series of tea-parties, Mathematical, Physical, Chemical, Botanical, Zoological, Historical, Philosophical, Economic, and Honours English. When all those ceremonies had been duly carried out and nothing of any real importance remained—nothing at all, in fact, except the examinations—the University stepped in and advised us to drop those formalities altogether, and send home all those students who had no university examinations. The advice was accepted ; in some quarters, one

might say, it was enthusiastically welcomed, although there was a noticeable absence of enthusiasm among those students who had been depending on the third term examinations to save them from disaster. As for the senior students, although, as you know, the option was given to them to move to any examination-centre they might care to choose, the great majority stayed where they were; and events justified them, for the examinations were all over before the one and only Alert was sounded.

That Alert was the beginning of the next crisis, when those of us who still remained in Tambaram had the interesting experience of witnessing at close quarters the Great Evacuation of Madras. Those evacuation days in April were queer days; among other things, they provided some of the most interesting rumours of the year; I do not think I remember anyone telling me that enemy submarines were operating in the upper reaches of the River Cooum, but almost every other possibility of invention was exhausted. I think it is perhaps a good thing in times of comparative quiet to remember how completely unfounded were most of the rumours which periods of excitement produced. Throughout this unsettlement, I am glad to say, every man and boy who had work to do in the College or on the Estate remained at his post, and I would add a special word of thanks to those student and ex-student volunteers, who, under the supervision of the Vice-Principal, remained in Tambaram throughout April and May and organised themselves as an A.R.P. fire-fighting squad.

The next crisis was one that occurs annually in June, when the Principal and Vice-Principal engage in a grim struggle with hundreds of application-forms and dozens of recommendation-letters, while applicants and fathers and brothers lie in wait outside for a suitable opportunity of explaining why their claims are overwhelmingly strong. For the Degree Classes, there were more applicants than ever; for the Intermediate Classes, there were rather fewer, which was to be expected in view of the unsettled conditions, and the absence of so many families from the City of Madras. Nevertheless, for about 450 places, there were 1,200 applicants, and the standards of admission were high. In this annual crisis, it is impossible to please everybody; hundreds are in any case bound to be disappointed, and the work of admission is carried on under such pressure that the weighing of rival claims becomes extremely difficult, but I think it can be said that due regard is paid to every well-grounded claim for special preference, and that very few who ought to be admitted are denied admission, if they apply in time.

The first term got under way rather later than usual because of the delay in publishing the S.S.L.C. and Intermediate Examination marks, which compelled us to postpone the opening of the Junior classes for a few days, despite the fact that the day fixed was already rather later than usual. Then, after we had been at work for hardly more than a month, a new and more serious crisis took us unawares and the work of the College suffered a series of interruptions during the remainder of the term. The College, as a college, has no politics and I will therefore say nothing whatever about the events which led to the unsettlement in the student world last August and September, beyond remarking that students do not live in sealed chambers and the older among them, at any rate, can hardly be expected to show no

signs of awareness when the national life is disturbed and storms are raging. Nevertheless, I wish to say here that the College profoundly disapproves of attempts, whether by students themselves or by politicians, to organise the student body for the purpose of direct political action. I hope it will not be thought that, in referring briefly to this question, I am unprofitably bringing up a painful and controversial subject which had best be ignored. A gathering of students, former students, and teachers of this College is a suitable gathering in which to indulge in plain speaking and there may be some value for the future in looking at this question of political action by students, now when excitement is no longer at fever-heat. In my view, the whole idea of exercising pressure by means of student-strikes arises out of confused thinking, and is based on completely false analogies with the industrial world. I think that those who seek to organise the student-body for political action do a great disservice to the students, to the colleges, and to the country—to the students, because they are led into a wasteful diversion of their energies from what is obviously the main purpose of their college life—to the colleges, because the orderliness and dignity of their academic life is impaired, and all those other imponderable elements which go to the making of a genuine college suffer serious injury—to the country, because it is not in the national interest that young men and boys should learn to withhold obedience from their colleges and teachers, even temporarily, even with the highest motives. The whole conception of direct action by students is logically unsound, and in its practical working-out it is not only useless but positively harmful. Among other things, it leads to the exercise of compulsion on students by students, for which there is no justification that I have ever heard of. Parents may in the last resort be justified in exercising compulsion on their children so long as they are responsible for their welfare; colleges may be justified in exercising compulsion on the students for whom they have undertaken a measure of responsibility so long as they choose to remain students ; but, so far as I can see, there is no justification for students exercising compulsion, direct or indirect, on one another, in the interests of student solidarity. Compulsion, or persuasion so intense as to amount to compulsion, can rightly be exercised only on those for whose actions and well-being we accept a measure of responsibility.

There is no further crisis to chronicle, unless the selection examinations are considered to be a crisis, and, for my further remarks, I therefore need not adhere to any chronological arrangement. There were several major changes among the staff in the course of the year ; Dr. Moses retired after a whole life-time in the College as student, demonstrator, lecturer and professor, and Mr. Martin departed for service with the Army Y.M.C.A. Mr. Martyn Thomas retired after distinguished service as Associate Professor of Mathematics, and Deacon Joseph returned to Travancore in response to an urgent call from the Union College. At the beginning of the new academic year, Dr. S. V. Anantakrishnan took up his work as Professor of Chemistry, and Mr. J. S. B. Abraham, a former student of the College who had come from Rangoon, was appointed to a temporary post in the English Department. Other new members of the lecturing staff were Mr. George Abraham, who came to the College not so very long ago as a somewhat intelligent Junior

B.A. student and is now lecturer in Mathematics, and Mrs. R. S. Macnicol who not only married one of our professors of English, but put us further in her debt by becoming an honorary lecturer in English herself. (In that connection, I should remark how greatly we are indebted to several ladies on the compound for help of various kinds, particularly to Mrs. Kibble for her work as Honorary Warden for women students.) Finally, not as a stranger, but as one returning home after a painful but necessary separation, Mr. K. J. Mathew Tharakan came back to the Economics staff after a period of research at the University.

In spite of the unsettlement at the end of last academic year, the results in the various University examinations were even above the standard of the previous year. In the Intermediate Examination, 85% passed completely, which was 20% above our previous best—but this must have been partly the result of special kindness on the part of the examiners. In the Mathematics group, more than 80% secured First Classes, and there was only one failure. In the B.A. Honours and M.A. Examination also, the mathematicians distinguished themselves, eight out of fifteen candidates being placed in the First Class and three in the Second Class, which is a very notable achievement. Among the eight candidates for the B.Sc. Hons. in Physics, three were placed in the First Class and three in the Second Class, and of the five appearing for the B.Sc. Hons. in Zoology, two secured First Classes and the remainder Second Classes. The results in the B.A. and B.Sc. examinations were much the same as usual, not incapable of improvement but for the most part very satisfactory.

In athletics also, it was a good year. As I have already said, we retained the Travancore Shield for track and field sports, this year by a larger margin than ever, and the football team won both the Intercollegiate and University championships. The hockey, basketball and volleyball teams were all placed second, and cricket third. If these results are a fair index of the general standard and general level of enthusiasm in athletics—and I think that this time, they are—we may say that the Athletic Association had a most successful year, and Mr. C. A. Abraham, the Physical Director, is to be congratulated.

The College Contingent of the University Training Corps was as efficient as ever, under the leadership of Mr. S. Parthasarathy, and must have some share of credit for the fact that about 200 former members of the College are now serving in the Forces, most of them as commissioned officers; the Union Society and the Magazine, under the guidance of Mr. A. F. Thyagaraju, maintained a very high level; and the Rural Service League, with Dr. Adiseshiah as its president, showed all its usual energy and enterprise. It takes many different kinds of activity, just as it takes many different kinds of people, to make up what we call College life; large numbers of people have to work away quietly at all sorts of unnoticed tasks, some of them pleasant, some of them not so pleasant, and they cannot all be reported on. I can say, however, that in the year 1942 the College *was* vigorously alive, and I hope the details I have given will be sufficient to bear out that claim.

Looking back on the year from my own special point of view as Principal, I feel that, along with some anxiety and some rather painful experiences, there

have also been some notable consolations. The ungrudging and unwearying support of loyal colleagues is something that a Principal of the Madras Christian College can always count upon, and no thanks are expected, but I should like to mention it here. I should like also to put on record my gratitude to many students who, even in the excitement and relative confusion of recent months, retained, and gave evidence of, a faithful and affectionate regard for the honour and welfare of their College.

How far the College was successful during the year that has passed in keeping before the eyes of its students the realities of the spiritual world which are its ultimate witness, I cannot say. But we may hope and believe that God was present with us and that He used our College and all we tried to do in it, even our failures, as instruments of His good purposes.

A RECOLLECTION

By Mahmood Bin Mohammad, *Hons. 3, Br. vii.*

How sweet were the days of my infancy;
In Beauty's lap fashioned of illusion,
A spirit of naivety lithe and free
Dashing like a fish in the deep ocean!
Full many a gracious Joy have I seen,
But ne'er dreamt of the ragged hand of Fate;
Lingering, sweet, that makes my pangs less keen,
True love can only pierce the folds of hate!
Now all are gone, a shrunken vision lives
To wound my heart deep like a whetted knife;
With sudden disillusionment it gives
Those tears and smiles of my fairest life!
O, the Lethean stream shall cross us never,
These gems shall memory wear for ever!

DISILLUSIONMENT

By Mahmood Bin Mohammad, *Hons. 3, Br. vii.*

Oft one night the moonbeams bright
Glimmering thro' the ragged clouds
Heralded a note of discontent.
My eyes unseal'd to a phantom of beauty,
A distant garden in high bloom.

The cedar-tops crowned with foliage fine
Tugged at my heart-strings,
And clamoured for a response.
How long? How long I chased I cannot tell
What seem'd to be a garden!

'Twas dark; the clouds had eclipsed
The silvery light of the winter moon.
Ere I reached my shiny ideal
Down I fell
Beneath the spell of insentient sleep.

O pity on thee, thou monument of frailty!
Wherefore thou seekest an oasis in this desert?
This mirage shall pass into the black cavern of oblivion.
Thou takest a mere illusion for a garden,
Thou fool, a cage for the nest!

The resplendent moon had appeared again;
And soon into fragments fell my dream.
I'd lie asleep under the magic moon-shed rays;
Like Endymion lulled to rest,
Now and for ever.

*DR. WILLIAM SKINNER

Dr. Skinner had on more than one occasion to speak about the teaching profession, and his own part in it. As essentials of healthy collegiate life, the College has made the moral and spiritual training of its alumni its special care. Education and character have a closer relation than is often realised. 'If we sometimes hear the complaint that the intellectual and moral ideals of the West have but little real hold on the minds of the educated classes in India, might not the explanation be that these ideals do not stand in any vital relation to the spiritual attitude of the people? I do not believe that an education addressed to the intellect alone will ever touch the deepest life of India or give rise to a genuine and lasting response in a country ruled by spiritual ideals,—never, I believe, to be replaced by material ones, and only to be changed, if changed at all, by the touch of some divine power which in changing them shall fulfil them too. The education which India needs, in which we can do the truest honour to the wonderful genius of the people, is an education in which we shall strive to come into contact with them in that world in which they live—the world of spiritual thought and aspiration. It is there that East and West meet if ever they meet. And where does there exist such provision for the fruitful interchange of thought between East and West on the highest things of the Spirit as in our Christian Colleges? The education they impart is an education which seeks to touch the mind of India at every point and by the association of religious with intellectual and moral training to call forth its wondrous capacities of life in every direction. It is our experience that such an education is fruitful of the best results. For my own part, said Dr. Skinner, if I were debarred from speaking on the subject of Religion, I should feel cut off from one of the most precious channels of sympathy between me and those to whom I speak; and I have no doubt that those who have received the religious teaching of the College have similarly realised its value. The West has certainly much to learn from the East along the lines of spiritual attainments, and I cannot but believe that the occupation of the Hindu mind with the divine figure of Him who lived and died for man will prove the beginning of a new life which will make India what she nobly aspires to be, the religious Teacher of the world. These are my hopes. They may say chimerical; but they are the hopes by which the Christian College is inspired.'

With views and convictions like those, arrived at through study and observation, through contacts and reflection during the first ten years of professorial work, he entered on his duties as Principal and carried on with quietness and confidence till he found himself in the last decade of service in a position of fullest responsibility for guiding the life of the College in all its aspects.

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* This is the third and the last of the series of articles that Rao Bahadur O. Kandaswami Chetty has contributed.

During all the time there was a gradual unfolding of his social nature and a growing intimacy between him and students who realised that behind his stern reserve there was a tender heart and a good humoured sympathy which expressed itself in subdued smiles. But the fullest opportunity for social expression and self-expansion came when he removed to College Park, which Dr. Miller had designed for the Principal's residence away from the din and dust of George Town. Dr. and Mrs. Skinner were glad to be relieved from the creaking and rattling noise of the tram-cars at the turn of the road at Parry's Corner, which they had to endure while living at College House which, though conveniently close to the College and the hostels, did not allow much leisure or detachment of mind or freedom from interruption. They sought however to make College Park a social centre. They threw open the tennis courts for the use of former students living in the neighbourhood. Their Saturday evening parties attracted many a student living in a distant corner of the city. It was here that the students came to experience the household care and tenderness of Mrs. Skinner reminding them of their own mothers and sisters at home. It was here also that in the course of conversation more than one idea sprang into being, which was afterwards put into effect in the College. Here it was that Dr. Skinner suggested that the College Notes which could no longer be written by Dr. Miller should be written by an Indian member of the staff—which was the beginning of the participation of the Indian staff in the editing of the College Magazine. It was here also that the idea of a Social Brotherhood among the students of the College was first discussed, though the decision to form one was taken later at a regular meeting of the students in the College with Dr. Skinner in the Chair, at which the first office bearers were appointed; and for several years afterwards all gatherings of the Brotherhood were held in College Park.

The first undertaking of the Brotherhood was the management of the night school for poor children in George Town and Royapuram, the first of the kind in the city at the time, which is still carried on in the Christian College premises. Other forms of service were added to the programme such as visits to hospitals. Dr. Skinner may be said to have been the spiritual father of the College Brotherhood; and it would have rejoiced his heart to witness the immense scale on which and the varied forms in which students at Tambaram are steadily carrying on ameliorative and constructive work in the villages around. This is an illustration of the Parable of Jesus about the grain of mustard seed which when sown on congenial soil and a free atmosphere grows into a tree which putteth out great branches so that the birds of the heaven can lodge under the shadow thereof.

The love and reverence cherished by the students of the College towards Dr. Skinner found most impressive demonstration on two occasions namely when Dr. Skinner went on furlough in December 1911 and again on the eve of his retirement in 1919. On the first occasion the hostels and the various classes desired to have each a separate function, and the College Brotherhood proved its usefulness as a unifying force and a co-ordinating agency by succeeding in reducing the number of functions to two.

One of the last functions which Dr. Skinner performed before his departure was the formal opening of the College Park Hostel. This, the latest born

of the College hostels, represented a type midway between the hostels in George Town and the residential halls in Tambaram; combining the benefits but supplying the deficiencies of the other hostels and indicating a much desired and fuller development in the future. The corporate life which those hostels helped to foster, with the opportunity they afforded for learning the practical and moral elements of self-government, was limited by two conditions, one physical and the other social—the crowded conditions of life in the town and the rigidity of the caste system and sectarian aloofness. These defects were in a measure remedied in the new hostel in Kilpauk, which had the additional advantage of possessing a professor superintendent residing in the same compound. The membership consisted of Brahmins, Christians and Non-Brahmin Hindus with the door open to Muslims and other classes ; and their living together under one roof helped to create a feeling of intercommunal fellowship such as prevailed in the 'Mountain Home' at Yercaud in the Shevaroys to which Dr. Miller was in the habit of inviting as his guests such students as wished to spend a portion of the summer vacation on the hills.

Dr. Skinner was a Christian teacher who thought profoundly and thought sometimes aloud about the social and national problems of India. On 2nd December 1911 the students of the College assembled in College Park for bidding farewell to Dr. and Mrs. Skinner on the eve of their furlough to Scotland. Owing to the inclemency of the weather the garden party was converted into a house party, the house being taxed to the utmost capacity for accommodating nearly five hundred students. The Junior B.A. students would not be happy unless they had their say as members of a class which felt the inspiration of daily intercourse with him. They testified to his discipline which was enforced with a smile and the individual interest which was something deeper than smiles, and to the power of his teaching issuing from the background of a blameless life.

In replying to these addresses Dr. Skinner revealed his joy in meeting in class room students coming from different parts of the country bringing with them fresh currents of life which enriched the ever-flowing stream of thought.

In taking final leave of the students in September 1919 he described the changes in personnel of the staff from time to time as natural. 'And so the College goes on, the young. the vigorous and the open-minded taking the place of the old, the tired and the stereotyped, to carry on the traditions of the College to the conditions of the new era on which India is entering'—a statement with a prophetic ring about it, a new era and new men, which is being verified in the experience of former students who visit Tambaram and find amidst new surroundings all new faces and none they could recognise. Dr. Skinner said that the College, by basing its education on the fundamental truths which lie at the heart of human history, was making a contribution to the national life of India inasmuch as it trained students who would enthrone a God of love and Righteousness in their lives, fellowship with whom is a pledge of fellowship with one another. 'Is it too much to hope' asked Dr. Skinner, 'that out of a College like this there may spring a school of politicians of this kind and that in the days to come, when India is progressively growing into possession of herself and her freedom, the alumni of the

College may be found upholding the ideal of a United India, an India carrying impartially for the good of all her children, an India in which privilege shall mean service and service privilege, an India in which nationality itself shall be merged in the Kingdom of God. For such a cause, as you know, Christ died and in His victory its triumph will be assured.'

Animated by a desire to make the College a truly national institution both subjectively and objectively—not only by its intellectual, moral and spiritual contribution towards the making of a free and united nation, but also by an intimate association of Indian personnel in the management of the College, Dr. Skinner strove to make the College Lecturers an organic part of the controlling staff. Between the College Lecturers and himself as Principal there was intimate relationship as testified to on more than one occasion, notably by the affectionate farewell accorded to him before his final departure from India. The first Indian Professor Mr. J. B. Raju was appointed in 1915 and one remembers the exultation with which Dr. Skinner mentioned the fact at the Prize giving of the year; and if to-day Indian professors on the College staff are not an uncommon phenomenon it is due to the policy promoted by Dr. Skinner during his principalship.

It was not often that Dr. Skinner came as it were out of his cell. In January 1907 however he responded to an invitation by a group of old students to visit Travancore. The Syrian Christian students of the College had a special affection for Dr. Skinner. He was, as it were, their patron saint. Their connections with him were of a most intimate character. When the history of the modern reform movement in the Syrian Church comes to be written as it ought to be, it will be seen that the leaders (not the least of whom was Bishop Abraham of the Mar Thoma Church, the Silver Jubilee of whose dedication was celebrated recently) owed not a little of their inspiration and wisdom to Dr. Skinner. The reception given to him at Trivandrum, Tiruvella and Kottayam were of a most affectionate and enthusiastic character. Dr. Skinner took the opportunity to represent the Madras Christian College at the centenary celebration of the London Missionary Society in Nagercoil, from which it was just an hour's drive to Cape Comorin where the three seas meet—the Arabian Sea in the West, the Bay of Bengal in the East and the Indian Ocean in the South.

The bestowal of the Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal on Dr. Skinner in 1916 was the occasion of a most impressive gathering of former students at which they presented to him an address enclosed in a chastely executed silver casket. Dr. Skinner in his reply acknowledged that he was most deeply conscious of the influence of the College in his own life. 'If I had done anything to make the Christian College what it is, the Christian College has done still more to make me what I am. I count it one of the greatest privileges of my life that I was initiated under Dr. Miller's influence into the spirit, the methods and the aims of the Institution which he had been slowly building up for more than twenty years. It is a great thing for any man when he can find his work in the service of an institution which he can recognise as embodying ideas larger than his own, an institution which can command his loyalty and submission and in whose service his work attains a value and significance, which it could not otherwise possess. If I have entered in any measure into

the minds of the great founders of the College, Anderson and Miller, and have contributed however slightly to carry on the traditions they embedded in it, I have enough to satisfy me. I shall never regret having spent my life in the service of the Christian College and through the College in the service of South India.'

Dr. Skinner's speech was followed by a most agreeable surprise in the shape of a letter enclosing a cheque for Rs. 1,500 from a young Mahomedan merchant of Madras, Mr. Ahmed Batcha, who said: 'Having taken my degree this year I wish to express my gratitude to the College and Dr. Skinner by founding in Dr. Skinner's name a Gold Medal to be awarded to the student of the College whom the Senatus pronounce to be the most distinguished among those who have qualified for the B.A. degree.'

For bidding farewell to Dr. Skinner before his retirement in September 1919 former students of the College gathered in very large numbers in the College Hall. The messages which were read came from different parts of the Presidency and even from beyond. Speeches were made by distinguished alumni representing different walks of life. No formal address was presented but a statement was read by Mr. (now Sir) Mahomed Usman, Secretary of the College Day Association, giving an account of the raising of the Fund for presenting a purse to Dr. Skinner. Dr. Macphail, the incoming principal who presided, was requested to pass on to Mrs. Skinner an envelope containing a draft for £367-3-9 the sterling equivalent at the time of Rs. 4,000.

In expressing thanks for all that was said and done in his honour, Dr. Skinner said that after thirty-five years of life in Madras, practically identified with the College and its students, he could not view otherwise than with sorrow the prospect of detaching himself from all that bound him to them. About the College Day Association and the former students, it means much to the College; he said: 'I leave behind it a body of men occupying positions of influence in the professional, the official, the industrial and the political and social life of the country who have received their education within its walls, who understand its methods and its aims and who appreciate its work and to whom efficiency and honour are matters of personal interest.' He hoped that former students of the College would always be its best friends not only by interpreting its spirit to those without by whom it may easily be understood, but also by making that a real and effective influence in the public life of the country. The College had always placed in the foreground of its purposes the moulding of character so as to make its students responsive to the universal demands of truth and righteousness. For the passion for truth is as much a matter of character as the passion for righteousness and the two must blend in a passion for God in those who are striving to be the saviours of their country. Truth and righteousness are the two reconciling forces in the world, the forces which conquer the selfishness of race and nationality and class and unite men in the supreme endeavour of winning for themselves and others the life that is laid up for them in the counsels of eternity. 'I look to the former students of the College,' said Dr. Skinner, 'to be a great reconciling force in the life of the country. Nothing is more distressing in the public life of India than the mutual antagonisms which alienate class from class and which are doing so much to endanger all steps of

progress. It may be these antagonisms are a necessary condition of a final and complete reconciliation. I do not say they are not. But this much is certain, that they lead nowhere unless they are dominated by the ulterior purpose of doing justice to every divergent interest. Not by simply standing aloof, by everyone attending to his own business, and refusing to be involved in the sordid game of politics but by active participation in the conflict by the introduction into it of the spirit of obedience to the demands of the Eternal Will, by submission to which men find the path of life, will men be able to exercise a reconciling influence in the public life of the country.'

This is the parting message and the standing message of Dr. Skinner to those who have studied in the College, even as his earnest appeal to those who are studying and living within the College at present is to maintain its traditions based on truth and righteousness 'unimpaired and untarnished'.

O. Kandaswami Chetty.

THE SABOTEUR

By S. Krishnan, *Hons. 3, Br. vii.*

(1)

Ramcharan believed in sabotage. He firmly believed that setting fire to a police station and removing the fish-plates from a railway-line would surely lead to Independence. His earnest conviction was that if one shot two or three British magistrates dead, the entire British race in India would leave India bag and baggage the next day itself. The newspapers were never before more interesting to him than during the disturbances. An arson case was food and drink to him and a bomb outrage would send him into convulsions of joy. The stories of the Bengal revolutionaries opened an unlimited vista before him in which he figured prominently. He would sit for hours imagining himself making a dramatic appearance in the high-court (or some such place) and throwing a bomb at the judge. Then he would make an equally dramatic escape and, concealing himself somewhere in the interior, would terrorise the government by various acts of sabotage. Up to this point, his imagination would work very rapidly, but after this everything was vague. He did not know whether to be a hanged hero, who would be exalted by everybody as a martyr or a national hero who got the desired independence for the country, and lived to enjoy it. He could not decide between the two. So he would sit still, imagining himself in each role every alternate hour. This desire grew in him so much that it soon became an obsession with him. His sole aim now was to commit some daring act of sabotage. But alas! he had not the necessary courage to do it. He could very easily imagine himself removing fish-plates at dead of night, but when it came to action, Ramcharan was not the person for it. He himself bemoaned this lack of courage in him and after some self-immolation in the form of fighting with an unwilling conscience, at last he decided that he would commit some act of sabotage, no matter how insignificant it was. So he began to think about that form of sabotage which suited him most.

* * * *

The happiest day in her life was approaching Seetha. She was about to be married. But she was not happy. She constantly brooded over something which had happened to her some time back. (What it was does not concern the story.) She felt that it would be unfair to her lover if she did not inform him beforehand about it. She felt she could not marry a man who was ignorant about her past. So she decided to write to him everything about it and if she did not receive a reply within two days she would commit suicide. That seemed to be the best course to her. So she began to write . . . . .

* * * *

(2)

Seetha finished the letter and took it to the street post-box and with trembling hands, pushed the cover of the slit back and dropped the letter inside.

A few minutes later, a man came sneaking to the post-box and looked at this side and that side of the road for a few moments. Then he dropped in the carefully packed phosphorus which he had bought for this purpose, and to make sure that it would burn, dropped in a flaming match-stick also. His face lit up with a satisfied gleam. Now they would even publish it in the newspapers!

* * * *

(3)

Two days passed . . . . .

Ramcharan could hardly keep quiet because of his excitement. He was constantly jumping about and fidgetting . . . . .

And Seetha . . . . . . ?

* * * *

(4)

Thursday, 11–2–19

'On Monday, at about 6 in the evening, flames were observed to come out of a post-box in . . . . street. The fire was at once put out. But almost all the letters were burnt and one or two which remained have been so charred that it was impossible to make anything out of them. The police are investigating.'

* * * *

Thursday, 11–2–19

'This morning, the dead body of Seetha (17) was found hanging from the ceiling at her room. The tragedy of the occasion is all the more intensified, as the dead girl was to be married to-morrow. The police are investigating.'

A BROADCAST FROM VENUS

(V^3. A.G^2., 104·7 m., 10^7 kc/s)

BY A. GIDEON VARAPRASAD, *IV B.A., Gr. 1-b.*

Lately we chanced to hear a broadcast from Mount Everest which was an appeal to us, the inhabitants of Venus to render help to the people of the earth among whom a ravaging epidemic has been spreading like fire without any abatement whatsoever. Since we to a certain extent are responsible for this dreadful disease of love, it would be meet on our part to diagnose it and, if possible, prescribe a few preventive measures against it.

Epidemics of the disease are often found in all places, especially in schools and colleges where there is co-education. You would be surprised to hear that the disease spreads, even in medical colleges, where so much is done to cure and prevent all disorders and diseases. Akin to the other diseases, this also attacks all people alike, irrespective of caste, colour and creed. It is very virulent among the flower of the nation—the youth.

The seats of infection are the eyes of both the sexes, and the incubation period varies as the square-root of the product of the frequency of exposures of the eyes and the period of time taken in each case. After the eyes have been infected, the infection rises to the brains and thence comes down to the heart—the seat of all passions and emotions. Now begins the onset of the symptoms of this titanic epidemic. Very often kerchiefs, flowers, fountain pens, books etc. become the carriers of infection. The disease according to its severity has three stages: Primary, Secondary and Tertiary.

SYMPTOMS. (i) *Primary Stage*:—The affected person's eyes become fidgety and the eye-balls keep rolling constantly, struggling all the while to focus on one fixed object, as a result of which the countenance looks flushed, and stealthy smiles issue from the face. The patient becomes more addicted to high class perfumes, toilets and attractive clothes. The kerchief often jumps from pocket to face, and the flower on the head is adjusted and readjusted a hundred times. Usually the symptoms of this stage are very mild.

(ii) *Secondary Stage*:—Absent-mindedness and hallucinations are more prominent. Exhilaration and throbbing of heart at the sight of the object of interest are still quite common. The victims do not leave a single stone unturned to meet each other. A few words snatched round corners, an exchange of glances, sometimes a kerchief or a powder tin, however trifling its worth may be, afford the greatest relish. Thus the disease takes a strong hold of the muscles of the heart. So the patient develops what is called a non-pathological-myocarditis.

(iii) *Tertiary Stage*:—This is the most dangerous stage. Waves of melancholia and ecstasy often sweep over the patient. The disease affects the nervous system so much that beauty often lies with the 'beholder' and not with the 'beheld'. Insomnia is one of the diagnostic symptoms which even

Morphine and such other hypnotic drugs cannot cure. Sometimes the patient becoming delirious steals away from home or hostel.

PREVENTION. When you find the object of infection before your eyes, close your eyes at once or run for a pair of eyeshades. If it is too late for you to do the latter, put forth all your efforts to control your facial muscles so that no smile escapes from your face. Do refuse roses, kerchiefs etc. if offered since they are all carriers of infection. The will-power which you exercised over the control of your facial muscles enables you to keep your lips tightly closed so that you do not speak a word or reply to anyone of the opposite sex.

TREATMENT. If all the prophylactic measures fail and the disease reaches the last stage, lead both the patients to the altar of a Church or to a temple. Request a priest to chant the usual charms over them and let them exchange their rings, the new quarter-of-an-anna piece would do for the purpose. This is the only treatment discovered so far.

INSECTS AND HUMAN DISEASES

By Mr. Samuel Raj, M.A.

That insects play an important role in the dissemination of human diseases is known only recently through hard and persevering researches of eminent entomological and parasitological investigators from all over the world. Insects have become very keen competitors and sometimes the very destiny of man appears to depend upon these insignificant and trivial insects! They either carry the disease germs inside their body and inject them mercilessly into our system by their strong 'inoculation needles' or spread the infection accidentally from one person to another or simply lacerate our skin causing septic ulcers and other associated disorders leading to serious consequences.

The most disgusting and odorous of these insects is the well-known bed-bug. They are small flat reddish-brown creatures wonderfully adapted for their peculiar mode of life. As they have entirely deserted their flying habits, the wings have almost disappeared. They carry a long piercing blood-sucking weapon, which is folded and hidden under the head during rest. When microscopically examined the body is found to be clothed beautifully with fine bristles. The peculiar pungent odour of the bug is due to a kind of secretion from certain stink-glands, the exact purpose of which is puzzling. The nasty odour of these creatures has induced people to attribute medicinal properties and it is not an uncommon belief in certain parts of India that a fairly big-sized bed-bug held at the tip of a needle over fire and immediately brought right into the nasal chambers, gives remarkable cure for nasty colds! The bed-bugs are all nocturnal but hide themselves in cracks and crevices of walls, doors and furniture during daytime. They are extremely clever and cunning in their ways of finding access to sleepers at night. They can even travel long distances and there is an interesting record of the bed-bug 'leaving an uninhabited house by crawling out of a window and passing along a drain pipe to an adjacent house, which it entered through a window.' The habits are too well known but their relationship to human diseases is little understood. Besides being a great pest wherever they occur by the unsparing use of the sucking weapon, they also are known to transmit diseases by behaving as carriers or intermediate hosts of certain disease germs. The sucking tube of the bed-bug is simple and carries inside four strong needles. Of these two of them are armed with a row of teeth at their tips and these serve to pierce or lacerate the skin. The other two are grooved needles, which when kept side by side form two long canals, one for sucking up the blood from the wound and the other for injecting its own saliva into the victim. Just before the bite, the weapon is straightened out, the needles protruded out of the tube and the piercing needles glide up and down. The flesh is lacerated and blood is sucked up. The effects of bed-bug bites vary with individuals, some being almost immune to it, while others experience a variety of local swellings and irritations. The irritation set up is due to the injection of the bug's saliva into our system. Although diseases such as Kala-azar, relapsing fever, leprosy, plague, typhoid, infantile paralysis, seven-day fever, infectious jaundice and even malaria have been regarded or at least

suspected by varied experimenters as being produced directly or indirectly by the bed-bug, the truth is yet to be seen. There is little experimental evidence to show that bed-bugs play any appreciable part in the transmission of certain diseases. But they may accidentally cause infections through the agency of its fæces or soiled beak. Recent research has proved the capacity of the bug to harbour certain disease germs such as those of Kala-azar, Oriental sore, relapsing fever and infectious jaundice, but whether they actually carry these germs in nature is still uncertain.

The bed-bug is not the only blood-sucking bug of man. There are several larger species found all over the warm parts of the world, some of which entirely blood-sucking while others partially predacious. The 'barbeiro bug' (*Triatoma*) inhabits the huts of the natives in Brazil and other parts and lives on the blood of the inhabitants. This bug is known to be the normal transmitter of the disease germ for 'sleeping sickness' in Brazil. There are several other bugs whose bites are very painful and unwholesome. The bite of the 'wheel bug' in certain cases even produces temporary unconsciousness accompanied by local inflammation. In tropical Africa a form of endemic goitre is supposed to be transmitted by a Reduviid bug. The 'big bed-bug' (*Conorhinus rubrofasciatus*) is of considerable size measuring about an inch in length. In Madras it is frequently seen inside houses and has been suspected to be the carrier of the Kala-azar in Madras. It is a blood-sucker but rarely attacks man. The fluid excreta of infected bugs are often found to be infective.

Fleas are well known as active agents in the transmission of the terrible bubonic plague from rat to rat and from rat to man. These are exclusively small blood-sucking and parasitic insects with their body strongly compressed from side to side to facilitate easy gliding movement among the hairs of the host. Hundreds of different species of fleas are known. Of these the human flea (*Pulex irritans*) and the Indian rat flea (*Xenopsylla cheopis*) are of particular importance in connection with the transmission of plague. Plague is one of the very few diseases which have ravaged the human race with terrible devastation. It is recorded that the epidemic of the 14th century carried away one-fourth of the population of the European continent. In India an average of over half a million people die of plague every year. The disease is caused by the plague bacilli, Bacillus pestis, which multiply in the gut of the rat fleas. Infected fleas get their digestive tube almost plugged with the bacilli, which are regurgitated out into their victim, the domestic rat. The transportation of infected rats from one part of the world to another brings about the dispersal of plague. Besides plague the fleas are known to transmit several other diseases as well. The common dog flea harbours several kinds of tapeworms and pass on the infection to young children. The spirochætes responsible for relapsing fever in man have been found in cat fleas in India. They are further described as carriers for Kala-azar and Oriental sore. The human flea is a temporary blood-sucker of man.

The Jigger flea (*Dermatophilus penetrans*) is a burrowing flea, an original inhabitant of S. America introduced into certain parts of India as Bombay and Karachi through infected sailors. The male and virgin female Jigger behave as other fleas feeding on the blood of man, pig and other animals.

But the impregnated females have the peculiar habit of tunnelling into the skin by the head and remaining stationary in that position for several days during which time the eggs undergo development and consequently the abdomen swells out considerably. It is usually found to prefer the skin between the toes for attachment. The ulcers in the skin caused by the burrowing Jigger are painful and inflammatory. Severe cases are also on record where the distended abdomen of the flea was crushed and the eggs released into the wound. Jigger infection is obtained through barefooted walkings and the use of boots or shoes is recommended besides clean habits.

The lice are small wingless blood-sucking insects making regular invasions into camps, jails, ships and other places. They breed on unclean bodies and in extreme cases bring about death. There are three different kinds of lice that attack man, the head louse, the body louse and the pubic or crab louse. The head and body lice are more or less similar in structure and appearance. The head louse frequents the head and occasionally migrates to other parts of the body also. The body louse is frequently seen on the clothing and occasionally on the hair of the armpits and chest. The eggs or 'nits' as they are called are whitish bodies found attached to the hairs. They hatch out in the course of about a week into miniature lice. The pubic or crab louse is broader and crablike. Although its favourite haunt is the public region, it is frequently seen to wander into the armpits, beard, eyebrows and eyelashes. Continued bites of lice induce severe scratching. Besides giving local irritations lice play an important part in the spread of certain diseases as typhus and relapsing fever. Our present knowledge of the pathogenic effects of lice bites we owe to the eminent investigators Nicolle, Blaizot and Conseil. Typhus is transmitted only by the head and body lice. The lice are also sometimes found to harbour plague bacilli and the spirochætes of infectious jaundice. Perfect cleanliness is the sure weapon for lice elimination.

The sand-flies or Phlebotomus flies are tiny blood-sucking flies which can easily crawl into the mosquito net. Their bites are irritating and painful and produce intolerable itching. During daytime they are found to crowd in dark corners or among clothes, cupboard recesses and so on. They lay their eggs in damp rubbish, crevices and cracks and in India sometimes in the nests of termites. The young ones which hatch out feed on decaying vegetable matter. Recent researches have shown that sand-flies also play an important part in disease transmission. They are known to transmit a dengue-like three-day fever also called the sand-fly fever or papatasi. The sand-flies are also suspected by many workers for Oriental sore, Kala-azar and Oroya fever.

The 'Sleeping sickness' in tropical Africa is transmitted by the blood-sucking fly, the tsetse fly. Although its bite is less painful than that of many other biting flies, the destiny of the whole African continent rests largely upon this insect. The tsetse flies are responsible for the death of thousands of natives of West, Central and East Africa and also for the tremendous losses in cattle, horses and camels. The minute animal parasites responsible for the sleeping sickness are called the Trypanosomes. These are carried from one individual to another by the notorious tsetse fly. When the infected fly bites a man, the Trypanosomes pass down through the beak into his blood stream. The bite is followed by itching and irritation near the wound.

Later the muscles grow tender and the man suffers from periodical attacks of fever. He becomes weak and anæmic and when the disease germs find their way into the cerebrospinal fluid of the brain and spinal cord general depression follows. The victim is lethargic and finally falls into a long long slumber never to rise again! Extermination measures of tsetse prove to be a very difficult task.

The Black-flies (*Simulium*) are a menace to the Cattle and even annoy man by their vicious blood-sucking habits. They usually settle on the forehead, neck and crawl into the ear, nose and eye causing considerable irritation. Often septic ulcers are formed at the site of the bites. The horse-flies or gad-flies (*Tabanids*) although mainly animal pests are also found to attack man, inflicting painful bites. In these flies the females alone are blood-suckers while the males live purely on vegetable juices. These flies are the disseminators of anthrax in animals and man. The bacilli which cause the disease are found in the gut of infected flies. Besides anthrax, they also cause different kinds of sores. These flies breed in water and so they frequent pools and ditches, where they are found to skim over the surface or the water. The common house-fly is not a blood-sucker, but still they are of great medical importance as they transport bacteria of cholera, summer diarrhœa, typhoid and dysentery and many other disease germs and their developmental stages such as cysts and eggs from filth and excreta to human food and from one sore to another. The stable-flies (*Stomoxys*) closely resemble the house-flies but carries a long pointed proboscis, with which they occasionally bite man, sometimes even through his stockings. They are known to carry certain Trypanosomes and were suspected once as transmitters of infantile paralysis.

Mosquitoes are no doubt the greatest foe of mankiud standing today as a colossal obstacle towards the progress of man. Scientific work towards mosquito eradication is still at the experimental stage. 'India and Africa more particularly have suffered from the malarial scourge, and the commercial progress of the world has been held back for many years because the ubiquitous mosquitoes, small and insignificant as they are, proved too great an enemy, and stopped the cutting of the Panama Canal. Not that the originators of the Canal scheme understood that their work was to be brought to nought by the agency of small insects! Far from it. They ascribed the succession of deaths among their employees to the mists that rose in the evening, to the odours arising from the mangrove-fringed pools and stream-sides, to the attacks of the chigoes and other irritating objects, to the heat of the sun; in fact, to almost any cause other than the real one—the germs carried by the bites of the mosquitoes.' Today malaria is so widely distributed that no continent is free from it. The malarial mosquitoes have conquered almost the whole of Africa, whose native children have become the 'living reservoirs of the parasite.' Many parts of India are uninhabitable. In spite of the vigorous and widespread anti-malarial work that is being done all over the world for the last few years, the problem is in no way solved but instead has thrown a challenge to the world of entomologists and parasitologists!

THE TRIPLE BOND

By S. T. Ranganathan, *Class II, Group ii.*

God, in His wonderful way, has created an infinite and eternal longing in the human heart to love—and be loved. The evolution of man in any sphere is in direct proportion to the extent to which he permits himself to be pervaded by this irresistible urge. Love is the indispensable element in Life and it misses its vocation if it does not succeed in enabling Man to make a true friend of his own Self, his neighbour and his Maker.

Sankara, the great Monist philosopher, was once asked to name his best friend. 'My Self' was the ready reply of the thinker. How many of us can claim unreserved friendship with our own Selves? How many can look back upon a past of which they have no cause to be ashamed? How many indeed can grasp without a qualm the hand of Love that our own Selves extend to us?

'Be true to your own Selves' is the admonition of the Gita, and a world of ethics is contained in these few words. When assailed by temptation, the Self argues and reasons with you. When ignored, it begs you to rise above and act worthy of your own self. Its mission is not over yet. Even when we fail, the Self is ready to forgive and give us yet another chance to turn over a fresh leaf.

Even the confirmed atheist, revelling in his positive disbelief in God, cannot, at the risk of denying his own existence, afford to ignore his Self. Solitude is agony to the wicked mind. At dead of night, when the world is still, the Self holds the mirror before us, and the vicious and the hypocrites tremble at their own reflections. The gay dress and the proud gait may deceive the onlooker, but they are unavailing before a spurned and unfriendly self. He who has broken faith with his own Self deprives himself of peace and happiness. The happy serenity, the calm poise and the quiet contentment which a friendly Self bestows upon a noble mind are things undreamt of by one who has stifled Conscience, the inner monitor. But to the truly noble spirit, the Inner Self is the Guardian Angel than whom Man has no greater, no more unfailing friend!

'Love others as you wish to be loved' is the logical corollary to the Golden Rule, 'Do unto others as you wish to be done by.' In these dark days of aerial bombing and gas warfare, when the entire resources of one group of nations are harnessed for the expressed purpose of exterminating another group of nations, it is almost impossible not to echo that self-preservation is the first instinct of nature. Yet, all is not lost. The flickering lamp of Love is still burning, and man knows that self-sacrifice is a loftier, nobler and diviner instinct. Selfless friendship is one of the noblest heights reached by Man in his ever-soaring flight in the realm of Love. Love is and has a dynamic force, but it ceases to be so, if it does not continue expanding until it embraces the whole world in its fold.

The prehistoric man should have had some glimmering instinct of love when he partook of the day's bag with his mate and offspring. From the narrow idea of family was evolved the comparatively broader conception of clan life. History shows how the hazy bounds of clans and petty states have been successively transcended by the forces of language, geography and religion, and to-day man looks upon millions of his fellow-beings as belonging to the same fraternity as himself which he calls the spirit of nationality. The limit of true fellowship has not however been reached yet. Scientific advancement has annihilated distance, and thrown open international doors for the exchange of commerce and thought. The Eskimos of the Arctic, the Negroes of the African forests, and the Mongolians of the Far East are as much our neighbours as the man living next door to us. The great ideal of the Brotherhood of Man, the lofty conception of a World State and the grand Russian experiment (which has now become a fact!) of the Equality of Mankind have begun to exercise thinking minds the world over. The voice of Humanity is inexorable, and the future is for him who has laid the foundations of lasting friendship with his neighbours. Every inequality we strive to remove, every shackle we unbind, every tear we dry, is an unbreakable bond of friendship between us and our fellow-beings.

He prayeth best, who loveth best
All things both great and small,
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.

These well-known lines from Coleridge are often learnt without being understood, but what a beautiful truth they embody! In loving our neighbours, we love God; in making friends with Humanity, we make friends with our Maker.

The real purpose behind creation has never been—will probably, by its very nature, never be—fathomed, but the explanation that has met with the greatest measure of agreement among thinkers is that God, who is Himself LOVE, has created Man to love and be loved. A grander, nobler and more soul-filling theory of creation has never been propounded! To comfort us in our sorrow, to stand by us in danger, to shield us against temptations, to share with us our joys, to be the inexhaustible fountainhead of our happiness, to give us 'the peace that passeth human understanding,' in short, to be our greatest and noblest Friend, there is our Maker, and He is eagerly waiting for our Love, for our Friendship. He it is that abides in the innermost recesses of our hearts as our Self! He it is that greets us in our fellow-beings! He indeed it is that welcomes us into the infinite Light of Love as our GOD! Blessed is he who is prepared to weave *This Triple Bond* of Love!

THE RED TRIANGLE IN SERVICE-CONDITIONED INDIA

By Mr. George Gnanadickam, B.A.

Every soldier, Indian as well as English, during his leisure hours is a problem to his C.O., to the peace-loving civilian population and more so to the Y.M.C.A. The same question was handled by the Y.M.C.A. with conspicuous success, during the last war. Something must be provided for him by way of recreation in order that he may use his conserved energy and feelings in harmless pastimes. Moreover something other than a 'Military Meal' is quite a welcome thing. Further, each soldier is far away from home and longs for company other than what he finds in his barracks. The allied nations were indeed thankful to the Y.M.C.A. after the 1914–18 War for undertaking to meet the above-mentioned needs of the Troops. This Institution, world-wide as it is, has entered upon a similar enterprise this time also.

I could briefly narrate the work of the Y.M.C.A. among Indian Troops. It is not exclusively for the Indian Sepoys, but they form the majority. So opposed to the 'Tommy' the English Soldier who is quite accustomed to club life, who is amply paid and that once every week-end, there is the 'Johnny'—the Sepoy, who is completely ignorant of club-life and is paid scantily on a monthly basis. There it is that one finds a 'Tommy' walking right into the canteen and making himself quite at home either in the Reading Room or in the Games Room or in front of the Wireless-set recklessly spending money on some cakes and tea or lime juice. Whereas the 'Johnny' walks in stealthily with girlish shyness and wants to get out as early as possible unnoticed! He is completely ignorant of Ping Pong, Bagatelle and such western games. But he exhibits pronounced genius at a Draughts Table. Cards playing is quite a favourite. It will not be out of place here if I mention the happy coming together of a 'Tommy' and a 'Johnny'—the one blushing all scarlet when cut by the other in a game of Draughts—offering cigarettes and drinks. The language stands in their way of coming still closer together.

The 'Johnny' is in his element in the Music Room where he tries to entertain himself and amuse, if not bore others with his voice raised to the highest pitch, accompanied with a series of unblending notes on the Harmonium and the untimely beats on the Thabela!

He is madly fond of sweets. Just to cater to his tastes there is a colourful display of the various kinds of sweets in the Canteen cupboard. They are always freshly made and sold at cost. Polishing one or two plates of them, he finishes with a highly sweetened cup of tea. He is not fond of coffee.

Though he is such a shy being he is anxious to talk with someone who is not in khaki. Even there he will talk only with men; women he admires but only from a distance! Quite different from his Western companion! When once he is engaged in conversation I'm sure he will forget even his duty in barracks. In the evenings he plays Soccer. It is Soccer inasmuch

as he kicks about a large sized ball with eleven on each side. One could see them attack the unfortunate ball with all their might from all sides simultaneously with a hatred solely that of an alien! He is mightily pleased with such game of about two hours duration! He is fond of another outdoor game too—'The Punjab Koud'—the northern equivalent to our 'Chidugudu' but more dangerous.

Very often Entertainments are organised within the Canteen premises and in Public Halls which are largely attended. I know of an instance when a company of men Route-marched full thirty miles to attend an entertainment. He wants to hear high quality Hindustani Music and see the artistic Indian Dance. He derives immense enjoyment out of such evenings.

Though these sepoys seem crude 'hempen-homespuns' there is something fine about them. They are simple fellows. Hardened they are by strict military discipline but complexity as such they have none.

May God grant them a speedy return to their happy homes to enjoy the gift of love-exchanged.

AWAKENING

BY V. DWARAKNATH, *B.Sc., III, Gr. iii.*

OH LOVE, so sweetly sad in my heart,
Solace or sorrow, what do you bring?
To please or to pain, what is thy art?
Wherefore dost thou rise with outspread wing?

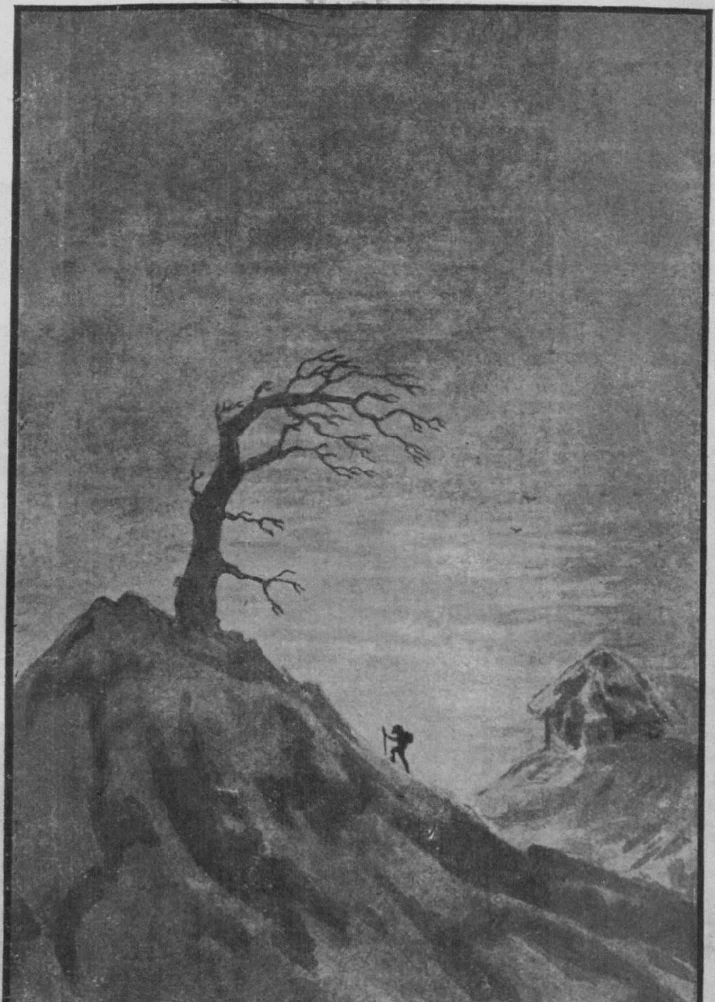
Where shall I seek WISDOM? whither repair
When books and teachers have proved futile?
Where can I bow my head and be aware
Of feeling the breath of Truth awhile?

In the gloom of night that hides my way
What avails it to grope for HAPPINESS?
How shall I look for the guiding ray
To shed this mantle of blind blackness?

Where lies BEAUTY with the freshness of dawn,
Like the glow that lights the morning sky?
Like the dew trembling on the grassy lawn?
Can it bide in flesh that lives to die?

Is love a kiss and caress of hair?
Is happiness wealth and riches vast?
Does wisdom in bloody words declare?
. . . My soul has spoken to me at last . . .

True Love, Knowledge, and Pleasure to win,
Let Pride end and Humility begin.



THE ETERNAL QUEST

MODERN LOVE

By D. S. George Muller, *Hons. 5, Br. vii.*

O rare, so fair—
What classic grace in every line!
What beauty in those eyes of thine,
O rapture! would that thou wert mine,
My fair.

First love—how sweet!
I felt its power, I owned its sway,
I sought the maid, I found a day,
And, will she nil she, said my say
At her feet.

O bother!
The maid was courteous, not unkind,
She tells me true, and fool! I find
There is another to her mind
Another.

In darkness deep,
For one whole day I fled the light.
I hid myself from common sight
Yet, strange to tell, that very night—
I fell asleep.

Next week
How kind a healer Time, thou art!
Thou gently sooth'st the burning smart,
How soon thou bind'st the broken heart,
Of mortal weak.

O Yes—
Next week, to ease my mind of pain,
I loved another—spoke again—
I looked full fond—she blushed full fain,
A kiss!

'DEAR UNKNOWN FRIEND—'

BY MISS INDIRA HENSMAN, *Hons. 3, Br. iii.*

'Dear Unknown Friend—Even though I am unknown to you, I would love to have you as my friend.'

These lines, which formed the preface of a strange letter addressed to me, introduced me to the grandest, most interesting and most thrilling hobby in existence—pen-friendship. My correspondent, who was a young American girl from Springfield, Ohio, in the United States of America, had received my name and address from the Caravan, the youth section of the New History Society, of which both she and I were members. Her letter was simple, straightforward and sincere, and it set me thinking what a fine idea it would be to make friends with girls and boys living outside India, and to understand the outlook of young people whose upbringing and environment were sò different from my own. So here I am to-day, with nearly ten pen-friends of both sexes in four continents out of five.

The Caravan, an international movement with its international headquarters in New York City, came into being on February 19, 1930, and ever since its young pilgrims have been striving, through the mediums of Arts and Association, to lay the foundation of a better society in the vast Sahara of the world.

The aims and method of the Caravan are so noble that it is well worth quoting them. They are as follows:—To create the spirit of fellowship and harmony among the children of the world; to inoculate the fact that this globe is Our Home—your home and my home—our home; to inspire children with examples of devotion and of selfless service to humanity; to obliterate the destructive emotion of 'fear' and replace it with the vitalizing qualities of confidence and assurance; to teach respect and admiration for the fundamental and universal principles which form the basis of the great religions of the world; to establish a chain of correspondence between the children of all countries in and out of schools; to instruct them through apt illustrations taken from nature, geography, commerce, economics, science and art, the evergrowing importance of national and international peace—peace in the family, peace among the nations and peace between the Governments.

Miss Marguerite Johnson of Sioux City, Iowa, U.S.A. (a pen-friend of mine) writing to the quarterly publication of the Caravan, says:—

> 'If every child in every land,
> Would join the Junior Caravan
> And make a friend across the sea,
> Oh what a blessing it would be,
> When they grow old enough to fight,
> For what is called their nation's right,
> They'll stop to think of this friend dear,
> Whom they have felt to be so near.
> If every citizen had his friend,
> In some far distant foreign land,
> They'll all try hard this strife to cease,
> And soon the world will be at peace.'

People who declare that foreign correspondence has no value and is a mere waste of time, energy and money are cynics incapable of appreciating the good and the beautiful. Apart from the many advantages accruing to this ideal pastime, there is a very real happiness to be had out of writing to unknown friends. The present war has dislocated both sea and aerial traffic upon which the hobby depends. But before the catastrophe started, letters from America used to take one month, and sometimes less than a month to reach India. It was an endless source of delight and quite easy too, to prophesy the date upon which mails would be delivered, for Saturday was invariably the only day for the receipt of foreign mails in Madras. The postman who used to bring my letters on Saturdays was the most welcome visitor I have ever had! Think of the thrill of receiving a letter with a foreign stamp! Even now picture postcards and photographs have the power of sending me into ecstasies of rapture and delight, so also other little knick-knacks which I receive from time to time. On my part I, too, have distributed snaps, cards, stamps, pamphlets and books on India etc. and I do not doubt the fact that they have been greatly appreciated.

Pen-friendship is a very amusing hobby, and all the fun lies in the ignorance of the foreigner about India. It is really surprising that the average educated Indian knows so much about America, and the American knows nothing about India. The little knowledge they do possess is stereotyped. Of one thing, however, I am justly proud. Every American boy and girl has heard about Mr. Gandhi and there is always some reference to him in every letter I have received. Otherwise they think of India in terms of ancient princely glory and splendour, a land full of jungles and wild animals, the home of sadhus and saints. What rôle Mr. Gandhi is supposed to play in the midst of all this fantasy is beyond my imagination. Here are some questions put me by my pen-pals who, by the way, are from New Orleans, Springfield, Sioux City, Minnesota, New York City in the U.S.A.; Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia and Gold Coast, Africa. Do Indians wear cigars on their ears? Does the Indian girl wear rings on her nose? Do Indians eat elephants? Are rubies strewn about the ground? Is the Nizam of Hyderabad the chief man in India? Do Indians ever fall in love? Have I ever heard of a circus? Are there water melons in India? A South American girl once wrote to a friend of mine asking her if she had seen plates, cups and saucers. The young lady even went so far as to draw and describe them! I have done my best to dispel silly notions about our country. I hope I have succeeded.

Writing abroad is instructive. I have learnt from my friends much more about China and America than I could read up from books. My correspondent in Hawaii is Miss Rosalind Mui, the daughter of the Chinese Consul-General to Hawaii. Patriotic to the extreme, her letters ring with her hatred of Japan which has become almost a religion to her. She writes about China as follows :—' Like India, China is a country of many languages and contrasts. The province of Kwong-Tung alone boasts of 72 different dialects! And China has 28 provinces, so you can well understand the difficulties we have in communication in our country. Kwong-Tung has dialects very much different from the rest of the other provinces. All overseas Chinese are from Kwong-Tung, that is why we all speak the Cantonese

dialect. During the last three years of the war many refugees migrated from the Northern Provinces to the south, so Mandarin is getting to be more and more widely spoken. After the war there is no doubt that there will be language unity in China.' I have also learnt much from my American friends about the broadcasting system in America, and the activities of the youth of that country.

Pen-friendship is interesting, amusing, instructive and, I repeat, one of the finest hobbies a boy or girl or even an adult could have. It is the simplest way of building bridges of friendship upon which future generations can travel for centuries to come, from east to west, from north to south, to connect the hearts of men, women and children, and to make the earth One Home. From every aspect foreign correspondence is a hobby among hobbies and, to quote our American friends, it is 'one in a million.'

BISHOP HEBER HALL TEAM

WINNERS OF THE INTER-HALL SHIELD

STUDENTS AND SOCIAL SERVICE

By Mr. C. R. Paulus, M.A.

Social service is a science in many of the Western Universities and very recently the Calcutta University instituted a diploma course on the subject. Some decry the idea and say that it is for the 'interested' or for people with a Stoic temperament. Indian universities and students have not yet realised the fundamental role that social service plays in students' life in college and even after.

Social service ought to become a subject of study in all Indian Universities. The main function of a University is to impart education which is in fact a preparation for life. A university besides developing the mental, moral, and physical aspects of students should also foster in them the spirit of social service. Education should be comprehensive and thorough and not one-sided only. A college is the place where we have sufficient opportunities to mould and shape the aptitudes, interests and instincts of students and herein the inculcation and cultivation of the spirit of social service must be done. That a college is an institution apart from life is an obsolete philosophy and what we study in college must be relevant and related to life or else our education is barren. Even the average student who enters a college with the sole purpose of getting a decent job and an honourable living can if he is properly nurtured convert his vocation into a medium of service. If the spirit of service is kindled and imbued at the right period while his personality is being moulded, a student will undoubtedly become a worthy citizen, useful to society and a strength to the nation.

The fact that the young men sent out of our colleges are the real builders of India is not an idle talk; it is a fact. Whether in Government service, business or in some profession India's problems confront us. India's problems—poverty, ignorance illiteracy, the powerful landlord and his subjugated tenant, the paradox of landless people by the side ef vast tracts of land lying idle, the iniquities of caste, the queer customs, the grotesque superstitions, the extravagant expenses on ceremonies and a host of others—these beset us and demand of us proper solutions. As a doctor, teacher, lawyer or banker everywhere the problems in question revolve round us. A student who passes through his college life without acquainting himself with these problems, never caring to study them or attempting solutions, what contribution could he make in his spehere of work? He can merely fill a gap and easily fit into the stereotyped routine of red-tape or swell the crowd in the various professions. As far as India is concerned he is a dead weight. Social service is the best anvil for students and a proper study and experience along these lines enables them to discharge their duties well and it equips them with the necessary dash and girth to deal with difficult problems.

What is the best form of social service that can be studied and done by students? City-dwellers can engage themselves in slum work or in the welfare of factory workers and labourers. But except a few cities India is honeycombed with villages. It is an often-repeated but naked truth that India is a country of villages and the problems of India are the problems of

her villages. The villages form the backbone and bulwark of our national existence, prosperity and culture, yet how little we know of them and how little we cherish and desire to work for their upliftment and rejuvenation. If our higher system of education is divorced from acquaintance with and devotion to rural study and work, our education does not prepare or equip ourselves for our lives. It is ill-suited. It is not so much the amelioration of the condition of villages that Universities should be after but it is the cultivation and fostering of the right spirit of service because social service does more good to the doers than to the done. The study and investigation of rural problems is not the monopoly of economists and rural work should not be the neglected part of human activity to be upheld only by philanthropic associations. Social service must be studied by all students and social work should form a major activity in all colleges.

To some of us village life and rural problems appear primitive, crude and conservative but the plain and poignant fact that in their reconstruction lies the salvation of India should open our eyes. Some blame the present system of education for our general apathy and indifference to village work. But that should not tie our hands. The resuscitation of villages will have obvious repercussions on our educational system which is gradually changing. We cannot solve the problems of villages on political platforms, by party pacts, committees and conferences or any other short circuit. Sheer hard work is the panacea. The fond faith that national freedom will usher in an era of peace and plenty and devour all our troubles and problems is moonshine. They will remain intact and undiminished. The claim that it would be auspicious to make a good beginning after we get our independence is to procrastinate and follow a barren do-nothing policy. Political agitation is inevitable in the state of affairs but slogans and shibboleths take us nowhere. Our patriotism must be vindicated and displayed in concrete work. The call of the village is irresistible and the problems are too great and knotty to be erased and patched up by short-cuts or half-hearted measures. We are in desperate need of silent workers in abundance and in their thousands who will stampede India's villages. It is the duty of Indian universities to send them out in large numbers, and it is their responsibility and theirs alone to cultivate sedulously a love for rural work, the best form of social service in our country.

Very good work can be done among students if several colleges associate together and chalk out some definite programme of rural work and if Indian Universities establish model village settlements. The different Provincial Governments should seize this opportune time of food scarcity to embark on colonisation schemes which I believe, will prove a great boon to the landless people and also afford a lasting solution to some of the thorny problems of our villages. Students can form themselves into groups of 10 or 15, select different centres in villages, camp there during the summer holidays and work for their regeneration. I am prepared to join such a group. If all over India students resort to this kind of hard and sincere work at least two months in a year, India will be quite different after five years. Let our sweat enrich the soil of India, our blood invigorate her paralysed parts and our service brighten the dark gloom that veils our motherland.

SOCIETIES

College Union Society

The Union's work for the third term of the year began with a speech by Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, M. L. A. (Central) on 'The Element of Utopia in Indian Politics' on Thursday, the 19th January, 1943. The Rev. A. J. Boyd, Principal of the College, presided.

On Thursday the 4th February, 1943, a debating contest was held when Messrs T. C. A. Srinivasa Varadan, K. Draviam, K. Ramunni Menon and C. B. Motaiya were selected in order to represent our College in the Inter-Collegiate debates. Messrs Thiagaraju, Macnicol and Vedasiromani were the judges.

In the Inter-Collegiate debate held in Pachaiyappa's College on 6th February, 1943, our College was represented by Messrs T. C. A. Srinivasa Varadan and K. Draviam. We are happy to say that our team was awarded the rolling cup. Mr. K. Draviam was awarded one of the prizes for the best speakers.

Messrs T. C. A. Srinivasa Varadan and K. Jagadisan represented our College in the Inter-Collegiate debate held in the Law College, on February 18, 1943.

For the rest of the term, the Union's work suffered the same fate as in the first term of the year. The Inter-Collegiate debate for the 'Gordon Matthews' Cup' was to be held on the 22nd February; and the Union's Valedictory Address was to be delivered on the 25th February 1943, by Dr. A. L. Mudaliar, the Vice-Chancellor of Madras University. But owing to the anxiety and political unrest in the country arising out of the fast undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi, these activities had to be suspended. The members of the Union feel very anxious about Mahatmaji's health. We earnestly hope that he will terminate his fast in safety.

C. B. MOTAIYA,
Secretary.

Christian Union

Our activities for the term commenced with a symposium which was held on Sunday, the 7th February at 11-30 a.m. in St. Thomas's Hall Theatre. The subject discussed was 'S. C. M. in College'. Constructive criticisms and useful suggestions were given by Messrs Abraham Joseph, Muller, Gideon Varaprasad, S. John and Samson.

In connection with the Universal Day of Prayer special services were conducted in the local Methodist Church and in the Bishop Heber Hall Chapel. We propose to hold our annual treat for Sunday School children in the first week of March.

C. J. JOSHUA,
General Secretary.

Tamil Sangam

Mr. S. Sri Achariar spoke on the Life and work of Subramaniya Bharathi on the occasion of the celebration of the Bharathi Day and distributed the prizes to the winners of the Bharathi Day Music Competition.

Messrs V. Nagabhushanam and E. A. Srinivasan were the recipients of prizes. We sincerely offer our thanks to the Secretary of the Karnatic Music Association for his hearty co-operation and help.

Our College represented by Messrs K. Draviyam and S. Sundara Raman won the Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar's Rolling Cup for elocution in the Inter-Collegiate Oratorical contest held under the auspices of the Loyola College Tamil Sangam.

The V. A. Ramachandran cup and prize were won by Messrs T. Chidambara Thanu and S. Sundara Raman.

In the Inter-Collegiate oratorical contest held on 18th February 1943, under the auspices of our Sangam for the award of Sri Pennathur Seshiah Rolling Cup, our College represented by Messrs T. Chidambara Thanu and S. Sundara Raman was adjudged to be the best.

The valedictory address of the Sangam was delivered by Vidwan V. M. Subramaniya Aiyar, B.O.L., under the presidency of Rao Bahadur C. M. Ramachandra Chettiyar, Commissioner, Hindu Religious Endowment Board.

We take this opportunity to thank Mr. Fred. Manikkam who was of invaluable help to us in these functions.

A special feature of this year's celebration of our anniversary was the simplicity with which everything was done.

V. SREENIVASAN,
Secretary.

Andhra Bhashabhi Ranjani Sanghamu

Last term, after the report had been given to the Magazine, a debate was held on 'Examinations as true tests of students' abilities', when Sri K. Vyasulu was the observer. A symposium on 'My favourite Modern Poet' was held on the 29th January, when Sri P. R. P. Francis presided. On 15th January 1942, a meeting of the Association was held when Sri Nelamraju Venkata Seshayya spoke on 'Natyakala'. Mr. Jagathpathi presided. Two Executive Committee Meetings were also held.

The valedictory function of our Association was cancelled owing to the extraordinary situation in the country. The money which was to have been spent on it will be used for adding Telugu books to the College library.

In the third week of January, the Andhra cultural week was celebrated. Many of the members of the Association took part in the several competitions. C. G. Rama Subbu got the second prize in the oratorical contest and Mr. N. V. Prasad, the first prize in mono-acting.

Sri K. P. Narayana Rao has been elected as the Secretary of the Sangham for the next year.

V. V. SUBRAHMANYA SARMA,
Secretary.

Mathematics Association

The Association celebrated its Silver Jubilee on the 13th of February, Dr. Kibble presiding. About a hundred old students were invited of whom nearly thirty were present, including several distinguished men and a few former Secretaries of the Association. Mr. Balasinga Satya Nadar gave us interesting reminiscences of the days before the Association were formed and revived many anecdotes in connection with Mr. Ross. He regretted the absence of this association in his day, for such a body could do much to promote the exchange of ideas among students; he urged us to cultivate the habit of communicating knowledge to others.

Mr. Subramaniam Iyer, of the Oriental Life Insurance Company spoke on 'Mathematics and the Social Order'. Pleading for closer contact between the study of Mathematics and everyday life he asserted that a mind accustomed to the logical vigour of mathematical methods could easily detect the inconsistencies in the economic structure of to-day and help to build a stable system for the future.

The concluding lecture was by Mr. S. R. Ranganathan, University Librarian on 'Mathematics from the Library Window'. He began by relating how Mr. Ross once devoted a whole hour to proving that the circle had only one centre, much to the amazement of his students, and when Mr. Ranganathan questioned him he replied that in the search for truth it was necessary to distrust the obvious and not to take things for granted. As an authority on library science, he revealed to us many interesting applications of mathematics in his work. By means of elementary permutations and combinations, he showed the futility of considering all theoretically possible ways of classifying books in a library. He also mentioned the use of transformations, Gestalt methods and statistics in library science.

We are commemorating the occasion by a souvenir, which we hope to publish as soon as possible. Many contributions have been sent to us by old and present students. Mr. K. Mukundan P. G. II, mentions a method long known in Malabar of making Gregory's series for π more rapidly converging.

Dr. and Mrs. Kibble and Tom will, most probably, go home for a year. We wish them all a safe journey. Before concluding, on behalf of the Association, I congratulate Dr. Sundarama Sastri, an old student, on his doctorate; we thank him also for his series of lectures to us.

C. P. Kuriakose.

The Radio Club

I have great pleasure in recording that this year has been a very active year, in spite of many difficulties. The club served its purpose in entertaining students with music in the evenings, in listening to news and in teaching them the principles of 'Wireless'. One important thing remains to be done, which of course could not be attempted this year. This is giving some practical training to members. I hope that at least in future, the secretaries will fulfil this if the conditions are favourable and the valves become cheaper.

One special feature of this year's work was that all the lectures given under the auspices of this club were popular, a difficult work for the lecturers. Mr. D. Krishnaswamy gave a brief survey of the principles of Wireless on the 24th November, 1942. He demonstrated some experiments of great interest. On 22nd January, 1943, Mr. M. A. Thangaraj spoke on 'Amplification in Wireless'. Dr. P. S. Srinivasan spoke on 'Detection' on the 28th of January. After giving instances where the above term is used in Physics, he gave a very interesting and humorous lecture. The Rev. T. G. Platten, our President, gave a lecture on 'Television' on the 3rd February. The lecture was very interesting and lucid. We were not able to arrange many lectures by outsiders, since they were not able to come.

T. B. JAMBULINGAM,
Secretary.

Historical Association

During this term there was one meeting of the Association, when Mr. D. Venkat Rao of the Muhammadan College, Madras, spoke on 'India under the Imperial Andhras.' The Rev. T. G. Koshy presided. The lecturer emphasised the social, economic, political, and artistic aspects of the Andhra age.

R. J. BASU,
Secretary.

The Economics Association

This term there were read at our meetings two papers, both prepared by students. One was by Mr. K. N. Raj on 'Monopoly.' It estimated the importance of monopoly in modern economic structures and suggested some methods for the prevention of the evils following from the existence of monopoly. An interesting discussion followed.

Later in the term, Mr. G. Jagathpathi read a paper on 'The Theory of Employment and its application to India.' The uselessness of theories based on the assumption of a highly developed industrial organisation for such an ill-developed and unindustrial system as obtained in India was fully recognised. It was also suggested that Indian problems were not wholly economic but also sociological and anthropological. Any scheme of industrial development should be comprehensive of all these phases of the problem and should not be a one-sided venture.

Owing to conditions which caught us unawares, we could not organise any more such calm discussions on important subjects in the midst of disturbing circumstances.

The record of the work we have done is not at all bad for an infant society like ours. I hope our successors will work still more enthusiastically and bring out a school of economists of which our country in general and our College in particular can be proud.

G. JAGATHPATHI,
Student Chairman.

Rural Service League

It is with a sense of utter urgency and peril that students and staff have carried forward the work of the league this term. We realised that we were living in explosive times, that we were placed in explosive situations, that we were dealing with combustible material. So we reacted blindly, feverishly, enthusiastically and irrationally in and through our Rural work, our work in and with our fellowmen. We thanked God for the league; it kept us and keeps us sane in a maddening world; it keeps us alive and active in a despairing and frustrated situation; it makes a little less meaningless, all thought and even prayer. Yes! that is what the league has stood for this year—something we have got to do or perish in the attempt!

The basis of all our work is the daily, regular visiting of the villages by students and staff. All the four R. S. Unions—Bishop Heber, Selaiyur, St. Thomas, and Hogg Villa and Staff Colony, send out three to five students daily to the twelve villages, to dispense medicines, organise games and social evenings and above all meet, talk and share ideas and thoughts with our fellowmen in these villages. For we have come to see that at bottom, the problem we have to tackle in our motherland is not just political and economic, but sociological and anthropological. Constitutional reform, price control, rationing of food, an efficient public Health Service imposed from above, are completely spent before they peep down to the community. The Rural Service League, by its very nature, comes up against the archaic sociological foundations and chaotic anthropological elements of our society, and it is here that it is making its characteristic contribution.

The term began with calamitous events. As a result of dire famine, starvation and malnutrition, cholera in an epidemic form, started in our villages. Immediately with the help of Mr. Subramanian of the Health Department, we worked day and night and inoculated all our villages except Selaiyur. Hogg Villa, Heber and St. Thomas took these steps immediately. But within the one week's immunity period, cholera broke out violently in Mappedu causing 13 deaths. All the inhabitants of Mappedu fled from the village over night, leaving behind 20 cholera patients, with no one to attend them except one old man of 90 who refused to go. Three staff members of the league then formed themselves into a Cholera squad and went into the village, washed, cleaned, nursed and fed the patients, dug graves and buried the corpses (some corpses were unburied for 2 or 3 days) disinfected the houses and huts, visited the camps where frightened villagers were staying out in the open, giving them food, clothes, medicines etc. In this work the College Doctors, Dr. Thomas and Dr. Raghupathi gave themselves unsparingly, and students contributed a large stock of clothes, which the villagers living out in the cold badly needed. Now that the epidemic has been brought under control, the villagers have returned. Selaiyur Hall, Heber and St. Thomas Unions have helped to protect the other villagers from a similar experience. We learnt some lessons in courage and heroism during these days from the old man of 90.

To meet the famine situation, we have taken some short term and long term measures. For long term purposes, we have organised the villagers and enabled them to get for cultivation some of the common land lying waste.

Heber Hall has succeeded in getting Tiruvenjeri cheri about 100-120 acres of cultivable waste after much agitation. So now each family will have 2 acres to sow dry food crops on. Mudaraipakkam is being helped to get 200 acres of forest land. Mappedu and Selaiyur are also getting new land. Land is available and can be had from government under the 'grow more food' campaign. It is our landlords and large farmers who, in their ignorant jealousy, have been placing obstacles in the way of poorer farmers. For the next year we are aiming at helping each family to grow its own paddy, by providing them with such land.

We, in the College, have also set an example. 15 out of 20, acres of jungle land given by the College to the League have been cleared and cholam, dry ragi, gingelly and gram are being grown. The fields will be harvested at the end of March and will make a material contribution to the food scarcity in our villages.

Our other work is concentrated in our Rural centre. Students have been working in groups of five to ten daily on the rural farm, growing vegetables for the villagers and have produced a variety of crops—tomatoes, beans, ladies fingers, greens etc. The Hogg Villa Union has made a great contribution in vegetables, specialising in tomatoes and French beans, and dry grains. They produced Rs. 30 worth of black gram on one acre of land, lent to the League by Mr. C. Lakshminarayanan.

At the centre, the Hand-made paper department has developed quickly on sound lines. We are producing Rs. 60—Rs. 80 worth of paper per month—about 5 to 6 reams per month. We sold 2,000 Christmas cards made entirely by villagers at the school, supplied hand-made paper to Chittoor, Madanapalle and far away places, supplied invitation cards and envelopes to several college and Hall Societies, foolscap paper to Botany students, writing pads and envelopes to many persons in Madras Presidency. This industry is supporting 10 villagers. The spinning school has now developed into a good industrial school with a full time table—working from 9-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. attended by 30 village boys and girls who learn spinning, gardening, poultry farming, cooking, hygiene and bee-keeping in the forenoon and the three R's in the afternoon. The school has been inspected by the Director of Industries and will be shortly recognised by Government as an industrial school.

The Hand-pounded rice industry is running successfully. We have just finished pounding Rs. 6,000 worth of paddy into rice for supplying to student messes. Ours is the only place in South India where Hand-pounding of rice is carried on continuously on such a large scale throughout the year. The industry supports about 12 village families. It provides rice to the messes at very cheap rates at a time when rice could not be had. We have suffered serious losses through rain, rats and theft. We cannot carry on this industry next year without a good godown which will cost Rs. 2,000. Any one interested in our work may subscribe to this. The industry has provided at cheap rates one mid-day meal for all workers in the rural centre, all the villagers engaged in paper-making and spinning and gardening.

Poultry has been well looked after. We have been able to increase our stock of leg-horn fowls by breeding and hatching. One leg-horn egg sells

now at 2 As. and this industry brings in Rs. 8—Rs. 10 to us per month and is a simple and gainful way of living to villagers.

The Relief Fund is used to subsidise Relief shop which has sold about Rs. 1,000 of paddy and ragi to the villagers. We have given ration cards to five families in each village enabling them to buy one measure of paddy and one measure of ragi daily. We are selling paddy at six measures to the Rupee (market price five measures) and ragi at five measures per rupee (market price three and a half measures).

Research and study have not been forgotten. The league has produced a good piece of research work on the Present Food Problem in the Madras Districts, which has been of help to official and non-official bodies tackling the food problem. Copies of this memorandum are available at 2 As. per copy.

Our finances have been good. Our members, staff and students have given their subscriptions fairly regularly. The Relief Fund has been increasing, thanks to people like Mrs. Moffat who sent us Rs. 50, and students fasting for a whole day or abstaining from one meal. We have got Rs. 100 from messes on this account. On February 15, 500 villagers were fed by students giving up their meal. Our Entertainment Fund is spent in paper-making, bee-keeping and the well at the centre. We need urgently a godown for storing Rs. 6,000 worth rice and paddy and a good poultry house. These two will cost about Rs. 2,500-Rs. 3,000. We do not yet know how this will be raised. We are baking our own bricks and tiles for this purpose also as a village industry giving employment to more villagers.

We are likely to lose Mr. C. R. Paulus this year. He is one of the foundation members of the League, and it is his quiet, steady, untiring work that has helped the League to become what it is. Mr. Mahadevan who has left us helped to build up the paper industry and gardening. P. Narayanan one of our Rural Secretaries who left us in January, also contributed greatly to our work. It is Mr. Paulus who is really irreplaceable. We are thankful to him for all he has done to make us alive and realistic, and for building this permanent bit of work for the College.

Here is a call! If any one wants to know what to do now for the country, our answer is : stay with us and work with the villagers during the Summer Holidays—this summer which is going to bring new epidemics, new panic and new dangers.

A. GNANOU, } *General*
P. NARAYANAN, } *Secretaries.*

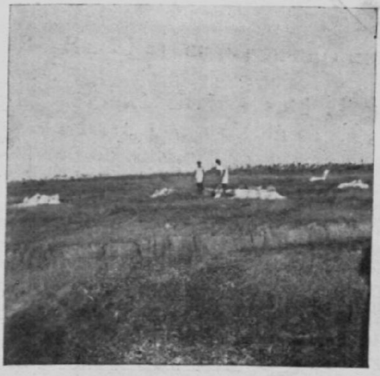
A. GOPAL,
St. Thomas's Hall.
S. NARASIMHA RAO,
Selaiyur Hall.
C. R. VARMA,
Bishop Heber Hall.
R. SESHADRI,
Hogg Villa & Staff Colony.
} *Secretaries.*

BOOK REVIEW

'Memorandum on the Food Scarcity in the Madras Districts' (prepared by the Chairman, Dr. M. S. Adiseshiah, M.A., PH.D. and published by The Madras Youth Council).

This pamphlet gives a masterly analysis of the food problem that confronts the country. In the Madras Districts, as in other parts of the country we are now really facing a crisis with regard to food supply. The factors which have brought about food shortage are many. The author classifies them under two groups: (*a*) controllable and (*b*) non-controllable. He offers many important suggestions for increasing the food supply, avoiding hoarding and black markets, and effecting a better and more equitable system of distribution than the chaotic one we are having. Special measures, as those suggested by the author for relieving the distress of the poverty-stricken people in the villages, are urgently called for. Based as it is on the valuable experience gained by the author and his associates in rural uplift work carried on in the villages in and around Tambaram, the study presents a realistic approach to the solution of the present food crisis in our country. The pamphlet is however too short to be a comprehensive discussion of the food problem in all its varied aspects. As the author points out, it is meant only to provide a rough outline of the lines along which the Youth Council and other Youth Organisations could with great advantage carry on research on the problem. The memorandum would be found to be extremely useful and suggestive by anyone interested in the present food problem.

THE GRAND OLD MAN OF 90 WHO
STAYED BEHIND AND HELPED IN CHOLERA WORK



TWO OF OUR MEMBERS WORKING AT THE GRAVE

STUDENTS GARDENING FOR VILLAGE RELIEF

A GRAVE OPENED UP BY JACKALS
(Note the clothes and body lying about)

VILLAGERS CARRYING ON IN THE OPEN AFTER FLEEING IN PANIC

OUR WINNING TEAMS

THE FOOTBALL TEAM

WINNERS OF THE WILSON CUP AND THE JABBAR CUP

THE TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

WINNERS OF THE TRAVANCORE SHIELD FOR INTER-COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP

THE SELAIYUR BASKETBALL TEAM

WINNERS OF THE INTER-HALL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

ATHLETICS

Football

Yes, our prophecy of last term has come true and we did win the Inter-collegiate championship after all! The New Year found us 'gladder and wiser' and we effected a few notable changes in the team. The return of our ex-captain, K. I. Eapen, is a valuable addition to the forward line. Nelson Isaac who joined the College very late this year has brought with him the vigour and enthusiasm of the Burmese and poured it out fully in the defence line. The result of these changes is seen in the success we have had this term.

The Wilson Cup competition evoked great interest since we met both the League Champions in the last two rounds. The finals with the Medicals was exciting throughout, and we won the match by one goal to nil. We have said everything when we say that the Medicals played at top of their form, but the issue went in favour of the better team.

We thought we would be satisfied with one cup but we were destined for more honours, and could not help winning the Jabbar tournament. We had an easy time till we came to the finals when we beat the holders—the Law—after a pretty hard fight. So, we take pride in saying that, as far as the memory of the present generation goes, for the first time we have won two knock-out tournaments. A word may be said about M. M. Chandy who right through the season has been playing very well and a great part of the credit goes to him.

We thank our President Mr. Macphail who encouraged us by his presence at almost every match, and helped us in various other ways. We are equally thankful to Mr. C. A. Abraham for his valuable assistance throughout the year.

Finally, I thank all the players for their hearty co-operation. I hope the Christian College football team will maintain their high reputation and win all the tournaments in future years. I wish the future generations the best of luck in the years to come.

K. V. George,
Captain.

Hockey

Before we could comfortably settle down this term, we were called upon to play for the Stoke Shield, our first victim being the Pachaiyappa's College. The second match was against the Engineering College, whom we defeated. This success was a real surprise, and placed us in the finals against the Medical College. These two matches were played on the Medical Grounds. The finals was played on the Presidency Grounds and sad to say, we were badly beaten. But this has been an improvement on our position in the Inter-Collegiate League.

We have had very few practice matches this term, because of the time and trouble spent on sports.

The Paul David Cup Match against the Engineering College, had to be cancelled because of unforeseen circumstances.

N. D. D'Sena,
Captain.

Tennis Club

Considerable enthusiasm was shown by the students for tennis this year. Eleven courts have been running during the last three terms with nearly twelve members in each. Although there has been a great scarcity of tennis balls, we have been able to run all the above courts well during the last academic year.

The standard of our college tennis has considerably improved this year with the arrival of a batch of new players. Besides, most of the students have become more enthusiastic about tennis and more 'Tennis minded'.

Our College Tennis Tournaments which started sometime in November have just now concluded. There were four events—Open Singles and Doubles and Handicap Singles and Doubles. The tournament brought to light many new promising players.

Jayanna who had been until recently in the College Second Court showed considerable improvement in his game by his performance in the tournament as a whole. If he develops faster service and faster drives on both hands he can become a very good player indeed.

Another new star is E. C. Philip. He defeated Jothi Pandyan—the holder—in the quarter final round of the Open Singles rather easily in two straight sets and also gave a good fight to Abdulla, in the final. His game on the whole is good. If he serves faster and develops a steadier and faster backhand drive, he can easily become one of the best players of our University.

The other surprising defeat was that of Abdulla and Dwaraknath Reddy at the hands of Alaganan and George Zachariah in the semi-final of Handicap Doubles. The winners kept up their form and won the final rather easily, defeating a more experienced pair—Sam. D. Raj and Jayanna.

The results of the tournament are given below :—

OPEN SINGLES

T.T.P. Abdulla beat E. C. Philip ... 4·6 ; 6·0 ; 6·4 ; 6·3.

OPEN DOUBLES

E. C. Philip and P. Jayanna beat
M. Jothi Pandyan and Viswanath Menon } ... 7·5 ; 6·4 ; 6·3.

HANDICAP SINGLES

T.T.P. Abdulla beat M. Jothi Pandyan ... 11·9 ; 6·1 ; 4·6 ; 6·3.

HANDICAP DOUBLES

B. Alaganan (–15) and George Zachariah (Scr.)
beat
Sam. D. Raj (–15) and Jayanna (–15) } ... 6·1 ; 6·3

We had planned to have our 'Tennis Social' in the last week of February and also to arrange a series of exhibition matches. But the turn of events at the end of term has forced us to cancel all these functions.

The academic year is fast coming to an end. We are not sure whether we will be able to run all our courts next year—for want of balls. I have already requested the authorities to see whether they can buy and stock some balls now so as to be able to run at least two or three courts next year. We can have a good Tennis Team next year and so I hope the college authorities will give sympathetic consideration to the above request and come to a decision before the existing stock of balls in the market runs out.

T. T. P. ABDULLA,
Secretary.

A REVIEW

Football

The Inter-Collegiate Knockout Tournament for the Wilson Cup started soon after the College reopened after the Christmas holidays. Though we have been winning the *League Championship* regularly for the last several years, this trophy has been eluding us all along. We often reached the final of this tournament without, however, winning it. So, it is in the fitness of things that this year, when we unexpectedly missed the League Championship by one point, we should win this elusive Cup. What is more, we had the satisfaction of beating both the League Champions—Engineering and Medical, during the course of the tournament, thus establishing our superiority beyond dispute.

This was followed by yet another success, in the Jabbar Memorial Tournament conducted by the Muhammadan College.

The team was an improved side this term with the inclusion of K. I. Eapen and N. Isaac. A word must be said also about the excellent leadership of K. V. George, the Captain who despite the failure in the League kept the team going without loss of morale.

Hockey

The Inter-Collegiate Knockout Tournament for the Stokes Shield proved to be an exciting competition. After defeating Pachaiyappa's and Engineering we met the Medical College in the final on the Marina ground. Though we were beaten in the end, the Medicals had to give of their best and it was only towards the close of the game that they were able to score. Perhaps, if we had not concentrated too much on the defence, and if we had taken advantage of the opportunities that came our way we might have won.

Cricket

Two matches were played this term and both were rather important fixtures. The first was against the Jolly Cricketers on the 16th January. Jolly Cricketers are a combination of some of the best players of Madras. The interest in the match was not so much in who would win but in seeing some of the best cricketers of Madras in action. There were many famous players among the visitors inculding A. G. Ram Singh, the Test player, M. O. Srinivasan, the Madras wicketkeeper-batsman, and K. S. Kannan.

Batting first, we were dismissed for 118 runs. V. R. Neelakantan who opened was the only one who made a mark and his 41 was a good inning. Others who made useful scores were G. Zachariah 22, G. Abraham 15, and R. J. Basu 13. The visitors made 190 for 5. Ananthanarayanan 66, N. Suryanarayana 39 and K. S. Kannan 38 were their principal scorers. A large crowd had turned up to see A. G. Ram Singh in action and a great ovation greeted him when he went in to bat. The cheer soon turned into a mighty groan when, off the second ball, the great Ram ,Singh was out, caught off Sankaranarayanan's bowling before he broke the duck. M. O. Srinivasan also fared a similar fate.

The Old Boys' Match

The annual festival match with the Old Boys was played on Saturday, 23rd January. The following played for the Old Boys:—

V. Pattabhiraman (Captain), B. Bhasker Rao, A. Ponnuswami, T. Janakiraman, S. Krishnamurthi, H. Paul, P. Ananda Rau, G. Abraham, K. S. Ranga Rao, A. C. Nanjappa and Md. Yakoob.

The game was started early, at 10–15 a.m., in order to finish it in time for the Selaiyur Hall Day celebrations. R. J. Basu the College Captain, won the toss and put the Old Boys in to bat. This was a correct decision as the pitch tends to be a trifle tricky during the early part of the morning when there is heavy dew. The Old Boys were skittled out for 97 runs, just before lunch. T. Janakiraman 17, S. Krishnamurthi 13, P. Ananda Rau 15 and A. C. Nanjappa 16, were the only ones who reached double figures. E. C. Philip, was the most successful bowler and his 6 for 19 was a magnificient performance. V. R. Neelakantan took 2 wickets for 23.

Two wickets were lost by the College team before lunch—those of Sankaranaryanan and Neelakantan. Fortified by a substantial lunch, however, the others who came later played bright cricket and won the match comfortably with the loss of only one more wicket. Perhaps, the heavy lunch was too much for the Old Boys whose fielding became rather patchy! E. C. Philip again played well and scored 29. B. Alaganan and D. L. Chackravarthi, the young colts, scored 55 and 20 (both not out). These too batted freely and won the match.

The teams spent the rest of the evening in Selaiyur joining in the Hall Day celebrations. This was the fourth match of the series. The first and the last were won by the Present and the others ended in draw. This is an occasion which the Old Boys look forward to with pleasure and great eagerness year after year. We hope this interesting match will provide an occasion for an annual reunion of the cricketers of our College both Past and Present in the years to come.

Basketball

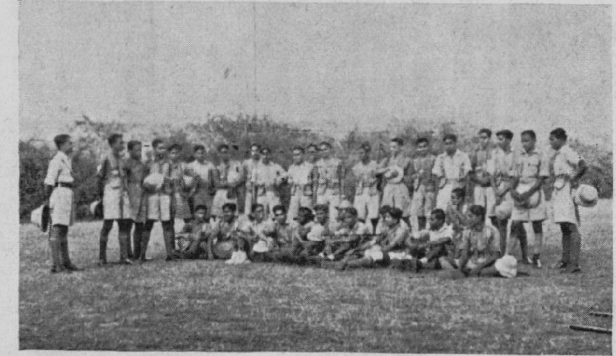
The Inter-Hall Basketball Tournament was started last term in November and before the second term was out two of the three matches had already been played. The first match was between Bishop Heber and Selaiyur and was won by the latter by a comfortable margin—36 : 16. The Second match, St. Thomas's *vs.* Bishop Heber, was more exciting. The

ATHLETICS

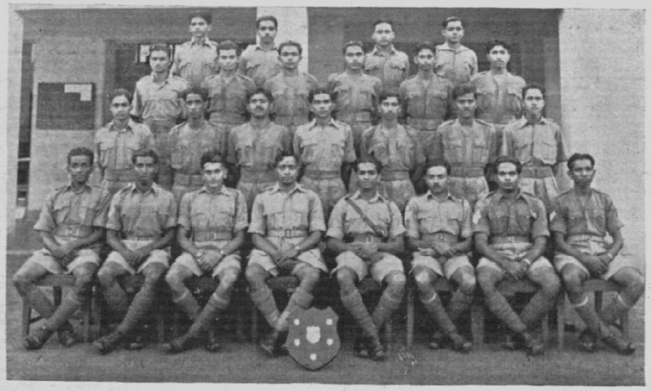
M. M. CHANDY FINISHING 400 METRES RACE

COLLEGE SPORTS: CHIEF GUESTS

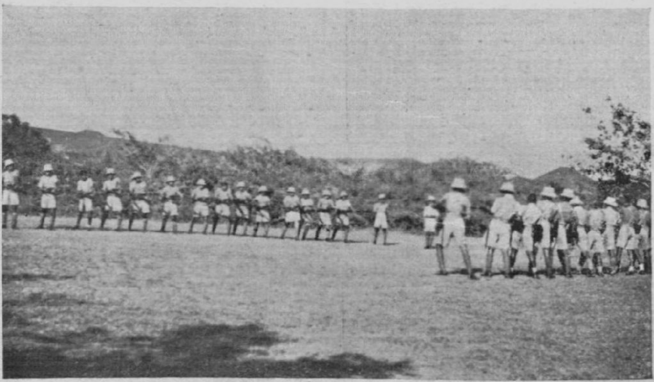
ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH WITH THE OLD BOYS



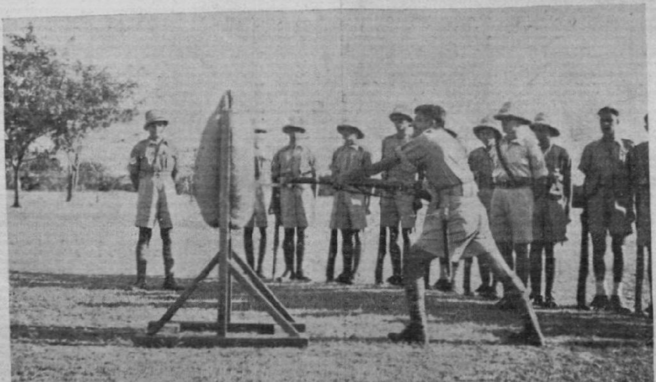
'JOLLY GOOD CHRISTIANS' OFF DUTY



17TH PLATOON: WINNERS OF ALL-ROUND-EFFICIENCY SHIELD



ON GUARD



BE RUTHLESS, BOY, AND STICK IT

Heber team played a really good game and gave the great St. Thomas's an anxious time. The scores ran very close and St. Thomas's could not run up a safe lead at any time. In the last three minutes, however, St. Thomas's played with great determination and won the match with 22 points to Heber's 18.

The last and deciding match, between St. Thomas's and Selaiyur, was played this term, on January 21st. This proved to be a thrilling match. Both the Halls had gathered in great numbers to watch the struggle. St. Thomas's, however, was the fancied side and they started off well with a good lead. Selaiyur took time to settle down and theirs was an up-hill task. At half-time, St. Thomas's was still leading. The second half turned out to be even more exciting than the first. Both the teams gave of their best and the issue was still doubtful. S. Venkateswaran, the St. Thomas's Captain had to retire from the game towards the end and this loss proved too much for them. Selaiyur drew level and almost just before the final whistle they scored the winning goal. It was a great match in which the teams were equally strong, and it was a case of the team that kept a cool head in a crisis coming out on top.

Track and Field

Sports training started again as soon as the College reopened. The Hall Sports of Bishop Heber and Selaiyur were conducted during the Pongal holidays. This is the first time that Heber had its sports in the third term, and it enabled it to select its men more efficiently. Selaiyur seemed content with discovering their second and third strings. St. Thomas's postponed their sports to a much later date which was, perhaps, not so wise. Considering how well they did eventually in the College Sports it would have been much better if their team had been selected earlier and trained as team.

The College Sports were held on Commemoration Day, Friday 5th February. The Heats and some of the Finals were held earlier in the week, on Monday and Tuesday. Interest in this year's Sports reached new heights and a very large crowd turned up to watch the Sports, including many guests and Old Boys.

Competition was very keen, and Hall rivalry was at its highest. This was partly responsible, no doubt, for the excellent performance of everyone and the large number of new records that were set up. Altogether, ten College records were broken and four Inter-Collegiate records. The deciding event for the Championship was the 4 × 400 metres Relay race. By winning it, Bishop Heber wrested the Championship from Selaiyur, with 118 points. Selaiyur were close behind with 110 points, while St. Thomas's secured 62.

The following are the results :—

1. 400 Metres Hurdles	1. K. I. Eapen—S— — Time: 62·1 secs. 2. V. Hensman—H—
2. Discus Throw	1. N. D'Sena—H—Distance: 75 ft. 10 in. 2. H. E. Baldrey—H—
3. Shot Put	1. R. R. Benjamin—T—Distance: 30 ft. 7 in. 2. M. Jothi Pandian—H—

4.	800 Metres Race	1. C. B. I. Jacob—S—Time: 2 min. 7·8 secs. (*New Record*) 2. G. K. Ramanunni Nair—H—
5.	110 Metres Hurdles	1. A. Sri Hari—H—Time: 18 secs. (*New Record*) 2. N. Isaac—H—
6.	Pole Vault	1. S. Palanivelu—T—Height: 10 ft. 6¼ in. (*New Record, better than the Inter-Collegiate Record*) 2. K. S. Ramakrishniah—S—
7.	100 Metres Race	1. E. L. Philip—H—Time: 11·6 secs. 2. P. Arumugam—S—
8.	Long Jump	1. M. M. Chandy—S—Distance: 20 ft. 11 in. (*New Record*) S. Palanivelu—T—
9.	400 Metres Race	1. M. M. Chandy—S—Time: 53·5 secs. (*New Record*) 2. K. I. Eapen—S—
10.	Hammer Throw	1. M. B. Farukhi—T—Distance: 59 ft. 1 in. (*New Record*) 2. M. Jothi Pandian—H—
11.	Hop, Step and Jump	1. M. M. Chandy—S—Distance: 43 ft. 5½ in. (*New Record, better than the Inter-Collegiate Record*) 2. George Zachariah—S—
12.	200 Metres Hurdles	1. A. Sri Hari—H—Time: 28 secs. 2. K. I. Eapen—S—
13.	High Jump	1. S. Palanivelu—T—Height: 5 ft. 5¾ in. 2. N. Isaac—H—
14.	200 Metres Race	1. E. L. Philip—H—Time: 23 secs. (*New Record, better than the Inter-Collegiate Record*) 2. C. S. Balakrishnan—H—
15.	Javelin Throw	1. M. Jothi Pandian—H—Distance: 115 ft. 3¼ in. (*New Record*) 2. Thomas Zachariah—H—
16.	1,500 Metres Race	1. C. B. I. Jacob—S—Time: 4 min. 40 secs. 2. Leonidas—S—
17.	4 × 100 Metres Relay Race	1. Bishop Heber Hall—Time: 45·4 secs. (*New Record, better than the Inter-Collegiate Record*) 2. Selaiyur Hall.
18.	4 × 400 Metres Relay Race	1. Bishop Heber Hall—Time: 3 min. 46·7 secs. 2. Selaiyur Hall.
19.	Tug-of-war ...	St. Thomas's Hall.
20.	4 × 200 Metres Relay Race for servants	Athletic Department.

21.	4 × 200 Metres Open Relay Race (Inter-College)	1. School of Technology—Time: 1 min. 40·4 secs. 2. Loyola College.
22.	200 Metres Race for Old Boys	1. Mr. V. T. Titus. 2. Mr. G. Abraham.
	Championship Points	1. Bishop Heber—118 points. 2. Selaiyur —110 „ 3. St. Thomas's — 62 „

Miss E. Rivett, Principal of the Women's Christian College, presided over the Sports and distributed the trophies and certificates.

Bishop Heber deserves to be congratulated for winning the Championship this year. They were a great team and it is to their credit that they were the first to bring down the colours of Selaiyur who have been holding the Championship continuously all these years. Selaiyur gave the winners a gallant fight right to the very end, and no one could ask for more. Though they lost they have the satisfaction of having done their very best which, after all, is the main thing. A word of praise should also be said of St. Thomas's who put up a really good show this year. With a little more planning and preparation they can do much more and be a factor to reckon with in future years.

The Open Relay Race (Inter-College) was a good race this year. No less than eight teams reported and, though we had added one more lane this year, we could accommodate only seven teams for the race. So, one of the teams had to withdraw. The School of Technology won the race while the Loyola College team finished a close second.

Picking out the individual performances, those of M. M. Chandy were the most outstanding. Chandy broke three records—Hop, step and jump, Long Jump and the 400 Metres Race. His best was in the Hop, step and jump, 43 ft. 5½ in., breaking the 5 year old record of T. B. Cleur by 1½ inches. Our old record was already better than the Inter-Collegiate record. Chandy is a natural athlete who is capable of doing much better if he takes the trouble to train. E. L. Philip's 200 Metres run in 23 seconds, another Inter-Collegiate record, was a remarkable performance. With a little more experience and a more thorough training, he has a great future as a sprinter. S. Palanivelu's was the other outstanding performance. His 10 ft. 6¼ in. in the Pole Vault broke the Inter-Collegiate record by ¼ inch. He also needs to train more thoroughly and he can do even better if he perfects his style. C. B. I. Jacob broke his own previous record in the 800 Metres Race, doing it in 2 minutes 7·8 seconds. He came very near breaking the Inter-Collegiate record and it is a pity that he ran against poor competition. Another remarkable feat was the breaking of an Inter-Collegiate record by a Hall team, in the 4×100 Metres Relay Race. The Heber team which achieved this magnificent record deserves special congratulations. The other new College records were made in the Javelin Throw, Hammer Throw, and 110 Metres Hurdles. These records, however, need to be further improved before they can compare favourably with the Inter-Collegiate records.

Inter-Collegiate Sports.

The Inter-Collegiate Sports this year were held on the Pachaiyappa's College grounds on the 11th and 12th of February. We were confident of winning the Championship again this year but we were not prepared for the almost effortless victory. Even on the first day of the Sports we had scored enough points to win the Championship. It turned out to be purely a Christian College show and the only interest was in breaking records! In almost every event we secured the first and second places while nine other colleges struggled for the third and fourth places. E. L. Philip won the 100 and 200 metres races in record timings, 11·2 and 23·2 secs., respectively. Philip who had learned by this time to take the crouch start was in improved form. Another new record was set up in the 4 × 100 Metres Relay Race, 45·7 secs. In the end, we won by a huge margin and won the Championship for the fourth year in succession. The next best was the Engineering College with 25 points to our 90 points.

Olympic Sports.

. The Madras Collegiate Athletic Association decided to enter a team for the Madras Olympic Sports, which were held on the 19th and 20th February at Saidapet. It meant that the Combined Colleges team was practically a Christian College team. In the Olympics the competition was of a higher order and teams from all over the Presidency and Bangalore had entered. However, we won the Championship comfortably with 62½ points. Practically all of these were scored by our men, the contribution from all the other colleges combined being only 6 points. The next best was 45 points secured by the Bangalore Contingent A.F. (I). Here again, there were some fine performances. M. M. Chandy did the best Hop, step and jump of the season and cleared 44 ft. 4½ in., a really remarkable performance. The other was the new Madras record for the 4 × 100 Metres Relay Race by our team in the excellent time of 45·3 secs.

In Track and Field Sports we have had not only a most successful season but a 'record-breaking' year as well.

C. A. A.

UNIVERSITY TRAINING CORPS REPORT

At the beginning of this academic year we had to take in new members to fill in the vacancies. This was very ably done by our Principal in the absence of our officer who was then undergoing a course of training at Mhow.

Early during the second term the following promotions were announced.

	17th Platoon		*18th Platoon*		*19th Platoon*
U/O	C. M. Poulose (Plt. comdr.)	*U/O*	G. M. Cheriyan (Plt. comdr.)	*U/O*	K. C. Thimmaya (Plt. comdr.)
Sgt.	Ganapathy	*Sgt.*	Devadoss	*Sgt.*	Sabanayagam
Cpl.	Burder	*Cpl.*	Koshy, T. P.	*Cpl.*	Mohinchandren
Cpl.	K. V. George	*Cpl.*	Drapes	*Cpl.*	Doraraj
L/Cpl.	Ramesh Rao	*L/Cpl.*	Singaravelu	*L/Cpl.*	Balasubramaniyam
L/Cpl.	P. G. Ommen.				

C. S. M. Thomas Jacob

C. Q. M. S. K. Varughis

The above which were acting ranks were later confirmed in almost all cases.

Throughout the term we were busy preparing for the camp, which started on the 9th December 1942. The camp would have been more interesting than it was but for the heavy rains during that period.

Our Principal the Rev. A. J. Boyd and the Rev. R. S. Macnicol visited us in camp. It is worth mentioning that this year we were asked to be in khaki throughout the period of the camp whereas in previous years we were allowed to be in mufti during the 'off hours'. We broke up camp on the 23rd in good time for Christmas.

A noteworthy feature of this year was the holding of the inter-platoon-competitions in our contingent in sports, guard mounting, drill and route march. The Seventeenth Platoon was declared the winners in all competitions, and it carried away the 'All-round-efficiency shield'.

The 5th U.T.C. Battalion to which we belonged was disbanded in September 1942 and two battalions were formed—the 1st and 2nd Madras U.T.C. Battalions. The contingents in the Madras City from the 1st Battalion and we together with the Trichinopoly contingents form the 2nd Battalion, of which we are the A Company. We are sorry to sever our connection with the Madras contingents.

It has been announced that the University has decided to give certain concessions in the case of U.T.C. members who go in for the 'B' certificate of the U.T.C. We feel that this step taken by the University meets the demand for more time that is needed for coping with the U.T.C. syllabuses.

We take this opportunity of thanking our previous Commandant and Adjutant for their valuable services. We welcome into our midst the new Commandant and Adjutant. We wish to convey our thanks to the Rev. R. S. Macnicol who took great pains to give us singing lessons which proved to be of great help to us in our route-marches. The services rendered to us by our Officer Commanding and Lieutenant S. Parthasarathy by way of the very excellent training, guidance, and advice require special mention and it would not be too much to say that he has prepared us for the hard life that lie ahead.

U./O. C. M. Poulose.

HALL REPORTS

Bishop Heber Hall

The first month of this term was one of crowded and glorious life. We began with the Hall Sports on Wednesday January 13 and in spite of the fact that the meeting was arranged at rather short notice we felt that it was one of the best organized and most keenly contested Sports we have so far had. A good deal of new talent was revealed, and our hopes for the Inter-Hall Championship began to burn high.

The postponed Hall Day followed, on January 26 and was presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Kunhiraman. Mrs. Kunhiraman kindly gave away the prizes. We were gratified that we succeeded at last in having a Hall Day complete with a president, and felt that the whole function went off very happily and successfully. Coming last in a succession of three, it might have been rather an anti-climax, but actually the number of guests must consitute a record.

But the great event of the term has of course been our victory in the Inter-Hall Sports. The very keen contest left the result in doubt up to the very last event, when the magnificent effort of the Relay Team crowned our efforts with success. It would be invidious to single out particular members of the team for mention; but much credit must be given to the tireless work of the Athletics' captain and also to the able advice and coaching of Mr. George Abraham.

The end of the term has inevitably been clouded by the situation in the country, and in the special circumstances it is not possible to hold the usual farewell to seniors. We take this opportunity of wishing them well; and also of saying good-bye to Mr. J. D. Asirvadam, who is retiring this term after his long period of service with the College, and who has been attached to our Hall (except for two years of wandering into an alien fold!) since the transfer of the College to Tambaram. We wish him much happiness and strength for the new work which we understand he is to take up on his 'retirement'.

Selaiyur Hall.

We celebrated our Hall Day on the 23rd of January under the presidency of Mrs. Rukmini Arundale. In spite of the absence of the usual illuminations, the Hall Day went off very well. The historical play 'Nur Jahan' which we produced on the occasion was very much appreciated. That was a new experiment of ours because historical plays had not hitherto been staged on such occasions. Our first attempt was very successful. Other Halls please copy.

In the Inter-Hall Basket-Ball Tournament our Hall won the Championship Shield. For us it is really an achievement because we had to fight against St. Thomas's Hall who had a strong team. In the Commemoration Sports, for the first time during the last five years, we lost the Championship

Shield. I take this opportunity of congratulating Bishop Heber Hall on their good performance. Our defeat was not unexpected. The appearance of a new comet in the heavens was an almost sure indication of that. But we were not disheartened by the implications of this celestial visitor's appearance. We did our best and honourably lost the Shield. We hope that in the years to come there will be keen competition among the Halls, unlike the unequal competitions of the previous years.

We learn that Dr. Kibble is leaving for Britain very shortly on furlough. We wish Dr. and Mrs. Kibble a safe and happy voyage and a pleasant time there. We will be missing Tom and his oddities. We will be looking forward to the day when they will be back among us.

This year has been one of excitement and anxiety to all of us and we hope that in better times our Hall will be able to devote its whole-hearted attention to its normal activities.

We invite all 'old boys' of the Hall to join the Selaiyur Hall Old Boys' Association which has just been formed.

K. N. Raj,
General Secretary.

St. Thomas's Hall

To begin with, perhaps, this term was not in any way peculiar or different from other terms. Ours was the first Hall Day in Tambaram this year, and it passed off with the usual gaiety and fun in spite of the absence of the flickering coloured lights which used to adorn our trees during such previous occasions, and the scarcity of food-stuffs. Moderation in the Tea and dinner menus was strictly observed in view of the acute food situation in the villages around us. The Rev. D' Souza, Principal, Loyola College presided, and he gave us an inspiring talk, it may be recalled, on the advantages of Hall life as a part of university education. The entertainment which followed the meeting was a real variety entertainment and the success, to a large measure, is due to our Entertainment Secretary and our Warden who had to bring this entertainment up in less than ten days.

As for Sports—Though we could secure only a high third place, we were mainly responsible for maintaining the excitement and the keen competition to the last minute. It is very encouraging to find the feeling all round that from now on St. Thomas's is really going to try its best to win the Championship shield next year. Our Tug of War team is enough proof to show that we are capable of some achievement.

It was when we had just begun to settle down for work after the din and buoyancy of the Hall Day and the Inter-Hall sports that the general atmosphere in the Hall became suddenly plunged in darkness and gloom over Gandhiji's fast. Sinking all our ideological differences, in earnest spirit and with burdened hearts we gather at the open air theatre of the Hall and pray for him every morning.

Charles Velu,
General Secretary.

COLLEGE NOTES

The Editor

Just when the matter for this number was to be selected and sent to the press, Mr. Thyagaraju took ill and the work of bringing out this issue had to be undertaken at the request of the Principal by the former editor who is happy to revive the very pleasant connection he had as editor for three years prior to Mr. Thyagaraju's taking charge. The Editor wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness among others to the Student Editor and the other members of the Magazine Board for much valuable help received throughout the year.

Retiring members of staff [1]

At the close of this academic year, two members of staff who have spent their whole life in the service of this College, will be retiring.

Mr. M. S. Sabhesan.—Mr. Sabhesan joined the staff in 1910 as Lecturer in Botany, having passed the B.A. Degree Examination in December 1908, and won the Palani Andi Gold Medal. In 1920, he became Senior Lecturer, and in 1932 Associate Professor. Both inside and outside the College, Mr. Sabhesan has the respect and affection of all who know him. His teaching has always been greatly valued by his students, and, as a wise and entirely unselfish adviser, he has earned the gratitude of successive principals. He has been a real pillar of the College.

Outside our own little world, Mr. Sabhesan has won great distinction. He served for many years as Secretary of the South India Teachers' Union, and for one term as President, and he has been an outstanding figure in many other such organisations. South Indian education owes much to his energy, and his unflagging zeal.

It is a great happiness to all that Mr. Sabhesan has recovered so rapidly from the illness which laid him low last year, and we hope that he may long be spared to serve those good causes which have benefited so much by his service in the past. The College loses by his departure, and we hope South Indian education generally may reap some gain from his added leisure.

Mr. J. D. Asirvadam.—Mr. Asirvadam joined the staff of the College High School in 1912, and during one period, shared considerably in the work of the headmaster, but in 1924 he was transferred to the staff of the College, where, for the past nineteen years, he has taken a substantial part in the work of the English Department, becoming Senior Lecturer in 1927 and Associate Professor in 1937. Like Mr. Sabhesan, he has been much more than a teacher. He has edited the College Magazine most acceptably, he has year after year edited the College Calendar, and at one time he played a useful part in the details of

[1] The Principal has kindly written the note on the retiring members of staff.

College administration, when, at the request of the Principal, he undertook for a time the charge of the Principal's office. Through all those years Mr. Asirvadam has contributed much by his counsel and his practical capacity to the efficiency of the College, and it is good that, in the later years, he found a place in the Administrative Board. In the first years of our life at Tambaram he did much to initiate rural service activities in the neighbouring villages.

All over India, Mr. Asirvadam has made his influence felt. As a leader of his Church in South India, and as an officer of the National Missionary Society, he has poured out his energies unstintingly, and it is good to think that he also, by the departure from the College, will be set free to serve an even wider circle.

Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Kibble

Dr. and Mrs. Kibble are going on a year's furlough. We commend them to God's keeping in these days of danger, and fervently pray that they will come back after a year to carry on their manifold activities in College. Our good wishes accompany Tom in his years at school.

Obituary

We have learned with much regret of the death of Lieut. K. C. Ganapathi, I.M.S., while on service in North India. Many of the staff will remember him as a very cheerful and lively student in the Intermediate classes some years ago, before the migration to Tambaram. He joined the Indian Medical Service only a few months ago, and it appears that he died in hospital after a short illness. We offer our sincere sympathy to all his relatives.

Three other former students of the College are known to have died on service during the War. It is now about two years since Pilot Officer S. A. Gnanamuthu lost his life while serving with the Royal Air Force in England. The letter which his squadron-leader wrote to his father at that time bore glowing testimony to his skill and courage. A few months later, his brother, Pilot Officer Bhaskar Daniel, was killed in a flying accident in North India. And only last summer, we had news of the death on active service of Pilot Officer Frank Moses. After a forced landing as a result of an attack by hostile tribesmen, his machine caught fire. Frank very gallantly tried to assist his observer to extricate himself, and as a result he himself received serious burning injuries which subsequently proved fatal.

Rural Service

The report of the Rural Service League is a testimony to the quiet but effective work done by the officers and members of the league for the amelioration of conditions among the villagers. The College has every reason to be proud of the great strides taken in developing the work of the league during the past few years. The league appeals to the students who can arrange to do so to stay behind and work in the villages during the summer holidays. We trust that this call will meet with a good response from those who wish to do something practical for the good of the underprivileged amongst us.

Mahatma Gandhi's fast.

The fast undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi has moved the students in a way no other contemporary event has done. We are happy that he has been able to end it successfully. There has been much prayer among the staff and students not only for his preservation, but also for a good and lasting settlement of the political situation in India. The readers of the Magazine will find in the present situation a continued call to prayer that God will even out of most difficult circumstances create a new situation according to His own purposes of love, peace and good-will.

The Third Term

Owing to the uneasy atmosphere, the College decided to close classes for the senior students three days prior to the dates previously notified. It was felt that if the senior students could go to their homes and spend about a month before the University examinations begin on March 22, they would be able to be profited better than by staying in the midst of fellow students who were very deeply disturbed by the situation regarding Mahatmaji's health. The examinations for junior students are being carried out according to programme and we have every reason to be thankful for the discipline that has prevailed in the College and the feelings of mutual understanding that have knit staff and students together through a very difficult period.

LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT